



Mount Vernon

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Messenger

Mark Your Calendar



Monday Thru Thursday

8:30 to 2:30

Lynn McDonald

Administrative Assistant

January 1

Happy New Year!

January 2

Cash for Backpacks

January 9

Leadership Team after Worship

January 11

MVMW at 11 am at Panda House

January 16

Charge Conference

at Lamar UMC 3-6 pm

Inside this issue:

Meetings	1
Sunday Helpers	2
Note from Donnie	3
Step-By-Step	4
Youth	5
Joys & Concerns	6
Small Groups	7,8
Charge Conference	10
Backpacks	11
Calendar	12

Coming Soon

February 6	Leadership Team
	Cash For Backpacks
February 8	MVMW
	Women on the Word
February 14	Happy Valentine's Day
February 22	Women on the Word
February 28	Prayer Focus Group

First United Methodist Church
Worship 9 am
Sunday School 10 am

Check Us Out Online!

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

Save Your Best Choice!

We now have 692 Best Choice labels, up from 628 labels we had last month. We did not make our goal for this year, but we will continue into 2022. Please keep looking for Best Choice items and save the labels for us.

Thanks to all who help
with this project.

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.

January 2022 Leadership

Lead Usher
Robin Tate

Audio/Visual
David & Lynn
McDonald

Offering Counters
Robin Tate & Peggy Pyle

Kingdom Kids
Volunteer needed

**Happy
New
Year**

Happy New Year Church Family,

The new year is traditionally a time when we are excited about the upcoming year giving us a new lease on life. However, as last year taught us, just because the calendar changes from one year to the next doesn't automatically reset life events. We still have the same issues on January 1 as we did on December 31 - Uncle Cletus is just as stodgy as always, Aunt May continues to wax prolific in gossip, your bank account is still lean or maybe in starvation mode because of overspending for the holidays and COVID is still around! I could go on, but you get my drift.

So, does that mean we are all doomed?! On the contrary! The Good News for 2022 is the same Good News from 2021 and from when Jesus was born (best estimate is around 3-5 B.C., in case you are wondering).

Immanuel, God with us!

When God came to live with us in the person of Jesus, He did not leave us alone when Jesus ascended into heaven. Now God is with us through the person of the Holy Spirit. Now that is Good News!

So, take heart! The same God who came, who died, who rose from the dead, ascended into heaven is still with us no matter what! Go ahead and wave bye bye to 2021, make resolutions and new plans, but remember above all to Look to Jesus in 2022.

Blessings for 2022,

Pastor Donnie

P.S. My New Year's resolution is to not make a New Year's resolution except to follow hard after Jesus. What about you?



Step By Step Wish List

Great Value leak proof plates	Whole milk
8 ounce cups	1% milk
Baby Wipes	Noodles
Paper Towels	Spaghetti sauce
Lysol spray	Alfredo sauce
Disposable gloves (large)	Snack foods
13 gallon trash bags	Canned chicken
Cheerios, Frosted Flakes	Hot dogs
Peanut Butter	Corn dogs
Jelly	Chicken nuggets
Small tortillas	Pizza rolls
Whole grain crackers	Fish sticks
Fresh or canned fruits and vegetables (apples, bananas, little oranges, raisins, frozen blueberries, carrots, cucumbers)	Lunch meats
	Cheese



Step By Step
Now Hiring

Please send resumes to
stepbystepfumc@gmail.com

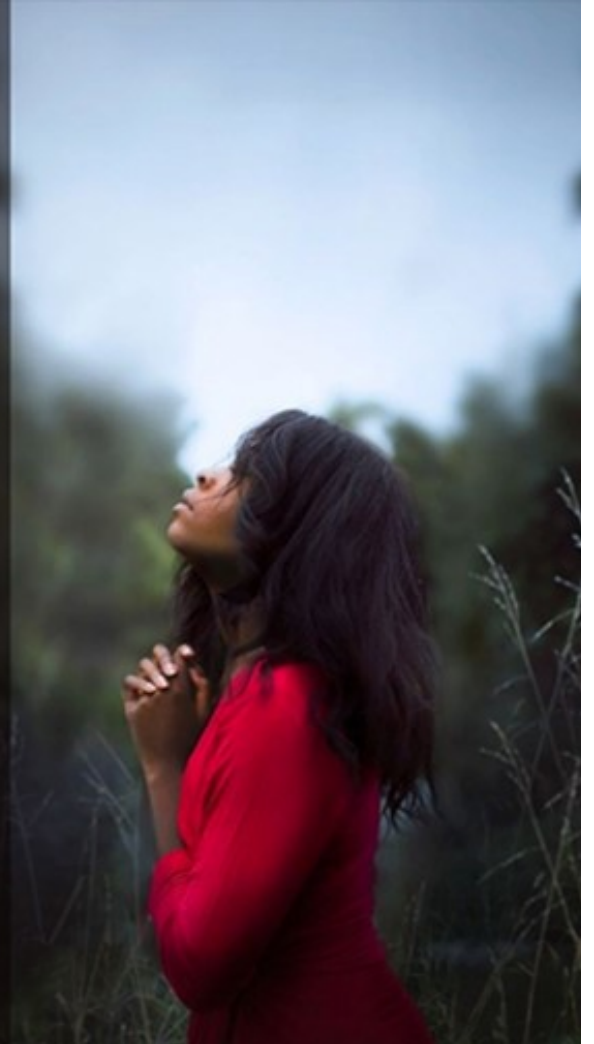
January 2022



PRAY

Be joyful always;
pray continually;
give thanks in all
circumstances,
for this is God's
will for you in
Christ Jesus.

- 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 -



**Please keep the following
in your prayers:**



General Prayer Requests

Family of Reva West

Ian McDonald

Those battling COVID-19
and their families

Cancer Treatment

Chris Atkinson

Health and Healing

Jim Greene

Jean McDonald

Military

Nathan Harralson

Lt. Anthony Richardson

Landon Hull

Lt. Jonathan Healey

Our people in the nursing homes:

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



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

We did not have a meeting in December, but we did enjoy the Christmas party on the 19th. The pot luck dinner was delicious and the “Dirty Santa” game was fun; the new saran wrap gift ball was crazy, but lots of fun, too.

A big thank you to Donnie, Robin, Jean, and Santa for organizing a beautiful party.

Our next meeting will be the second Tuesday in January.

We will meet at Panda House on Tuesday, January 11th at 11 am.

Esther is the hostess and will have the devotion. Please join us if you can; we always have a fun and informative time and a delicious meal.

Happy New Year!!

The Mustard Seeds

Planting seeds in faith

There is a Small Group Bible Study every Sunday following morning worship.

It is called MUSTARD SEEDS.

Adults of any age are invited to go to room 103 down the east hall and join in. It's OK to come any time because the study is informal. (Spoiler alert:)

You may hear some chattering and laughing. It happens a lot! Not disrespectful, just good fellowship!

Check it out!

♡ If a Tiny
Virus can do
this much
Damage.....
imagine what
a Mustard
Seed of Faith
can Do.... ♡



Women of the Word (WOW)

We will come back with a new study in February.

We are changing the days and time we meet to the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at 6 pm.

Our new study will be:

“Defiant Joy: What happens when you are full of it”
by Candace Payne.

Prayer Focus Group



The Prayer Focus Group meet on the fourth Monday of the month for focused prayer for our church, the ministries God has given us and the people He has called to fulfill them.

In between our meeting times, Pastor Donnie will contact each prayer group member with any additional prayer focus and with prayer encouragement. If you would like to know more or believe God is calling you to a prayer ministry, please contact Pastor Donnie or come visit one of our meetings.

The next meeting is
Monday, January 24th at 5 pm.



We have an Emergency Food Pantry. We are stocked and ready to help anyone who might need something to eat. If you know of anyone who might need this service please let them know we are here. We have pre-made bags for singles, couples, and families.

The pantry is open Monday through Thursday
8:30 am to 2:30 pm.



MEETING NOTICE!

Charge Conference 2022

The 2022 Southwest District Charge Conference
is scheduled for January 16th from 3-6 pm
at the Lamar United Methodist Church.

The address is: 900 Poplar Street Lamar, MO 64759.

If you would like to attend please let the office know as soon as possible.

More information on the logistics will be available closer to the date.

All members are encouraged to attend.

Backpack Ministry

We are basically starting from scratch fund wise for our Backpack ministry. We received a \$4000 grant from the Mt. Vernon Area Community Foundation that brought our funds to \$4785. I will be writing another grant in the spring through the Missouri United Methodist Foundation. I am estimating a budget of \$6500 for next year, considering cost increases and an increase in the number of students served.

To meet this budget we are going to need to do some fundraising. We have started “Cash for Backpacks”.

On the first Sunday of each month, January 2nd, we are asking you to donate your loose change (checks and bills will happily be accepted). All funds will go to the Backpack Ministry. Our first two “Cash for Backpacks” collections were wildly successful with collections averaging 3.5 total backpacks each month!

This ministry is very close to my heart and I hope yours!
Your support is greatly appreciated.

Jean Duwe



Thank you for your generosity, our last “Cash for Backpacks” collection brought in

\$84.06!!

This is equivalent to
3.5 complete backpacks!!

JANUARY 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2 Praise Team at 8 am Mustard Seeds after Worship Cash for Backpacks	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 Praise Team at 8 am Leadership Team after Worship	10	11 MVMW at Panda House at 11 am	12 SBS Chapel at 10 am Bible Study at 5 pm Youth at 5:30 pm	13	14	15
16 Charge Conference at Lamar UMC 3-6 pm	17	18	19 SBS Chapel at 10 am Bible Study at 5 pm Youth at 5:30 pm	20	21	22
23 Praise Team at 8 am Mustard Seeds after Worship	24 Prayer Focus Group at 5 pm	25	26 SBS Chapel at 10 am Bible Study at 5 pm Youth at 5:30 pm	27	28	29
30 Praise Team at 8 am Mustard Seeds after Worship	31	1	2 SBS Chapel at 10 am Bible Study at 5 pm Youth at 5:30 pm	3	4	5

**Happy
Birthday!**

2 Carsten Smith
3 Sue Chappell
4 Maya Smith
9 Janice Casey
12 Wilma Wood
13 Aria Duwe
18 Travis Smith
31 Trinity Stacy



**Cash for Backpacks
January 2nd**