

JANUARY 2019 UPCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY 11TH THE LUNCH BUNCH IS GATHERING in Fellowship Hall at noon to celebrate the New Year! We invite everyone to come share your favorite New Year dish and resolution story! For more information, please contact Sheryl Felde at 885-5325.

JANUARY 14TH IS OUR COUNCIL MEETING FOR THIS MONTH. Starting at 7pm in the downstairs Classroom Room we will be discussing ongoing issues, finances and up-coming events. *Everyone is invited to attend.* If you have something you would like discussed, please let Pastor Keith or Jay know so they can add it to the agenda.

JANUARY 19TH THE FLUTE CIRCLE PRESENTS THE DYNAMIC TRIO IN CONCERT! The Dynamic Trio, also known as Travis Terry, Steven Rushingwind and Odell Borg are a unique combination of talents ranging from flute crafting to award winning artist, will be presenting a workshop from 2-4pm (hosted by Odell Borg) and then a concert from 6:30 to 8:30pm. Please contact Paul Surhoff at 908-917-2307 or psurhoff@gmail.com for ticket information.

JANUARY 29TH THE PRIMAVERA LUNCH TEAM MEETS IN FELLOWSHIP HALL FOR LUNCH PREP. These lunches are for the working fellows from Primavera and your help in assembling them would be really appreciated! Can't come at 10am to practice being a sandwich artist? How about helping to provide the ingredients! Please see the signup sheet in the Narthex.

FEBRUARY 3 WE WILL HOLD OUR ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING. It is so important for the members of our church to be present at this meeting where we will plan our future for 2019. We must have a quorum in order to vote on such things as our budget, synod assembly reps and council members. Please plan about an extra hour for this meeting which will be held immediately following the service. **WE ARE LOOKING FOR COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES.** This year we have 4 people leaving the council and who will need replacing. Being a council representative is not hard; you have to attend a meeting once a month and you have to genuinely care about the welfare of the congregation. Please prayerfully consider this service to your church. For more information, please see Pastor Keith or Jay.

OUR QUARTERLY FRY'S COMMUNITY REWARDS CHECK HAS ARRIVED! This quarter our members, by simply shopping at Fry's and by designating us as their preferred Community Rewards recipients, have earned Abounding Grace an additional \$59.45! A honest thank you to everyone for this simple, almost effortless gesture that does make a difference here. If you would shop Fry's and would like to become part of their Community Rewards program, please see Jay in the office. It takes about 5 minutes and costs you absolutely nothing. For those of you who are already enrolled, please update your enrollment with them. Need help? Again, please see Jay.

ON-GOING EVENTS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

HAPPY JANUARY BIRTHDAY to

1/2 Paul Surhoff
1/4 Chris Christman
1/11 Cheryl Emtman
1/19 Carol Leveratt
1/24 Sharon Garner
1/26 Joyce O'Leary
1/30 Mike Armier

DOROTHY BASS TELLS THE STORY of a mother who has a rather wonderful way of teaching her children to be attentive to signs of God's activity around them. At the end of each day, instead of asking her young kids, "How was your day?" or something similar, she asks them instead, "Where did you meet God today?" "And they tell her" Dorothy says, "one by one: a teacher helped me, there was a homeless person in the park, I saw a tree with lots of flowers in it. She tells them where she met God, too. Before the children drop off to sleep, the stuff of this day has become the substance of their prayer." Where do you see God each day?

A SINCERE THANK YOU from Pastor Keith, Steven Natoli and Jay Froehlich for your very generous Christmas gift. It is our honor and pleasure to serve this congregation and we appreciate each and every one of you for the gifts you give to us in so many different ways throughout the year.

DO YOU HAVE ANY ORGANIZING SKILLS? If so we could use you to organize our annual rummage sale! Held in the spring, this is a great way to 1) raise some funds for the church, 2) get rid of your unwanted treasures, 3) make sure that the community comes by and visits our facilities. If you are able to help out, please see Jay in the office.

WE ARE SAVING BOTTLE CAPS- any type, color or size of plastic bottle caps will work. They are being sent to a shelter in Hermosillo, Sonora, Mexico to help pay for housing and diagnostics for cancer patients. This program came to our attention through one of our local Girl Scout troops. It is such an easy donation to make, we all have plastic tops of one sort or another in our daily lives; a small commodity that can make a big difference to someone else. Please consider putting yours in the bowl in the Narthex instead of a trash bin.

DO YOU NEED FREEZER PACKS? Pastor Keith has an abundance of freezer packs (used to keep food cold) and is looking to re-home some of them. If you are interested, please see him or give him a call at 780-9207.

IF YOU NEED A RIDE FOR ANY SERVICE, PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE AND WE WILL MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR YOU!

WE WANT YOUR INPUT/ THOUGHTS/ OPINION on how we are doing with our Sunday Service. On the podium in the Narthex by the guest book we have put some simple feedback forms for your convenience. Signatures after you fill them out would be great (just in case we need clarification) but not a requirement. The forms go to Pastor Keith (in person or slot #50 in the mailboxes) and are not made public. Please give us both positive and negative feedback. Your opinion is important!

DO YOU EVER HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE READINGS? The Thursday Bible Study at 11:30 led by Pastor Keith, is a deeper study of the following Sunday's readings and usually last 60- 90 minutes. It an excellent way to learn the history and context of the readings as well gaining a more meaningful look into what it is that our Lord is trying to teach us. For more information, please call the church office.

PRAYER CHAIN- Our church has a Prayer Chain. Anyone with a prayer request, please call **Shirley Berner at 885-4892**. Also, anyone that is interested in helping on the Prayer Chain please contact Shirley to lighten the load. **If you have someone on the list that should be taken off or someone to add, please contact Shirley Berner and Jay Froehlich in the office.**

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN

John Stum (son of Paul & Martha Stum), Audrey Neymeyer (granddaughter of Cheryl Emtman), Clay Hardwick (grandson of Jane Dunfee), James Simpson (from Aspire), Levi Thompson (grandson of Dave Kitner).

SUNDAY HOSPITALITY TABLE – Who doesn't like to have a chance to sit down with a cup of hot coffee (or tea), a sweet treat, and for a little while, just chat? It could be with a friend you've known for a long time or someone you just met. It's a nice feeling, isn't it? Well that's what we try to provide right after each Sunday service. Here's a place to talk about the sermon or the music. Here's a time to discuss an event that just occurred or will be coming up soon. You may think that you're just giving yourself a little refreshment time, but don't forget the person you greet with conversation. Could it be that person needed somebody to share their thoughts with as well? Could it be you're a blessing to someone and you never knew it?

PLEASE PRAY FOR ABOUNDING GRACE AND OUR FRIENDS

Sarah Williams (niece of Cheryl Emtman), Jeannie Van Sickle (daughter of Mark Westlake), Robert Lloyd, Eric Leland, Peter Leveratt (brother of Carol Leveratt), Alice Yaskanich, Kathie Josephs, Betty Hetler, Mark Westlake, Susan Martinez, Walter Brewer, David Glarborg (son of Estelle Glarborg), Police Officer Mike Duffrin, Don and Nancy (brother-in-law and sister of Kathy Peters), Will Trembley (son of Artesia Runge), Anthony Huggins, Michelle Benedict (niece of Roland and Shirley Berner), Marion McGrew, Joyce O'Leary, Claudine Williams, Karen Paye, Holly Charland (niece of Paul and Sharon Surhoff), Cheyanne Davis (daughter of Pastor Keith and Lynn Hardy), Gary George, Sharon Surhoff.

THE PEACE CANDLE – Our church carries on a tradition that began in Russia, of lighting a candle each week on our altar as a symbol of our prayer for peace in our world. We invite visitors from other congregations to take a Peace Candle along with the literature of its history to your home church to continue the tradition. If you would like to take the Peace Candle to your home church please mention it to the Pastor or an Usher and we will be happy to “pass it on.”

Mary, Did You Know

Mary did you know that your baby boy will some day walk on water?
Mary did you know that your baby boy will save our sons and daughters?
Did you know that your baby boy has come to make you new?
This child that you've delivered, will soon deliver you
Mary did you know that your baby boy will give sight to a blind man?
Mary did you know that your baby boy will calm a storm with his hand?
Did you know that your baby boy has walked where angels trod?
And when your kiss your little baby, you have kissed the face of God
Oh Mary did you know
The blind will see, the deaf will hear, the dead will live again
The lame will leap, the dumb will speak, the praises of the lamb
Mary did you know that your baby boy is Lord of all creation?
Mary did you know that your baby boy would one day rule the nations?
Did you know that your baby boy is heaven's perfect Lamb?
This sleeping child you're holding is the great I am

Songwriters: Buddy Greene, Mark Lowry © Warner/Chappell Music, Inc., CAPITOL CHRISTIAN MUSIC GROUP For non-commercial use only.