



A Spot of T

(Get it? 'Cause my last name starts with a 'T'?)



The weather outside is becoming bitterly cold and unrelenting, but be prepared for things to heat up inside Christ Church.

First, we are starting the new year off with a new, football-themed sermon series about “getting into the game.” For many, January is a time of moving from one holiday season to another, which highlight the college and professional football playoffs and championships prominence in our culture. So, we’re going to look at what that culture might teach us about turning our love of God into a transformative work we do as the hands and feet of Christ.

Second, we can look to all the different ways God may use the new year to change us in ways we never dreamed, and refocus us on new and exciting ways to be God’s church in God’s world. Some may look at this work as a chore. However, let me invite you to look at it as a great opportunity to allow God to empower a newly creative time in the history of our faith – in order that the world may know the love and grace of God. When we look at it that way, each of us should be entering the new year with excitement and hope.

Lastly, you are probably going to be noticing little changes around the church. Most notably, we will be changing up our music in worship a bit and mixing some of the more traditional elements of worship with modern expressions of a vibrant, Christian faith. We will continue to encourage families to make use of our “playground” in the worship space – so little ones can remain in worship as well as their parents. And, of course, there will always be surprises along the way.

So, join me in praying for our church and our world, and that God may continue to move us as individuals – and as a church – ever-closer to becoming all that God desires us to be.

Peace,

2018 UMW Reading Program



*Faith
Hope
Love in
Action*

UMW 2018 READING PROGRAM

This year's books look at the history between the United Methodist Church, the United States and Native peoples; examine economic injustice and the plight of the oppressed and marginalized; explore intellectual and spiritual leadership; and let us join personal journeys of spiritual growth.

EDUCATION FOR MISSION

First White Frost - This account helps you gain new insights and understanding of Methodist activities with Native Americans from the 1600s.

Hiding in the Light – A remarkable spiritual journey from Islam to Christianity.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Hollow Faith – The themes of moralism, deism, meism, consumerism, and therapeutic religion of pop culture are explored.

The Sacred Secular – New ways we can convey to people that the church is uniquely sacred and significant, and that Jesus is for them.

NURTURING FOR COMMUNITY

Detained and Deported – Poignant stories of the people caught up in the immigration dragnet.

The Book of Joy – Listen in as the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu stare into the abyss and despair of our time and

reveal how to live a life brimming with joy.

SOCIAL ACTION

America's Original Sin – Not only a recounting of the pain of racism and xenophobia, but also a hope-filled map of a new reconciled reality.

Worker Justice Illustrated – Stories of workers seeking economic justice in their workplaces.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Adventure of Ascent – Growing older is a reality we try to put off, but then we realize it happens anyway.

Tattered and Mended - Even the most threadbare soul can once again find healing and hope.

A New Year's Prayer

Lord, You make all things new
You bring hope alive in our hearts
And cause our Spirits to be born again.

Thank you for this new year
For all the potential it holds.
Come and kindle in us
A mighty flame
So that in our time, many will see the
wonders of God
And live forever to praise Your glorious
name.

Amen.

*"Hope smiles from the threshold
of the year to come,*

*Whispering, 'it will be
happier'..."*

Alfred Tennyson



Please Pray for ...

Betty Boyer
 Mary Davenport
 Lois Koehler
 Dorothy Hahn
 Richard Purdy
 Connie Rosen
 Janet Ross
 Phyllis Shambaugh
 Lowell & Marilyn Karns
 Gary Meyer
 Deloris Anderson
 Tom Boyll — cancer

Teresa — cancer
 Joie (friend of Julie Henderson)
 Margie Eltzroth (Dave & Jane Wagmer's sister-in-law)
 Steve Reed (Kelli Singer's cousin)
 Tiffany Frank (Kelli Singer's cousin) - health concerns
 Alice Proffitt (heart/lung issues); (Henderson family friends)

College Students:
 Karla Singer, Lyndsie Thomas, Carli Henderson, Danielle Sparling

Military Personnel:

Daniel Smith (Frank & Barb Nordman's grandson)

Also pray for ...

- The leaders of our country
- Our shut-ins (make it a point to call them or send them a card)
- Those who have lost loved ones
- Those struggling financially
- Pastor Chris, church leaders, teachers, our youth and for church growth
- Those serving in our military and their families



*With Deepest
 Sympathy*

The faith community of Christ United Methodist Church extends sympathy to: **The family of PL Wilson, who passed away December 30.**

Big Thanks

We would like to thank the church family for your prayers and cards. Also, a **HUGE THANK YOU** for the prayer quilt.

*Janie & Grant
 Long*

'Plow Under Cancer'

Relay for Life of Wabash Co.– North Manchester ... Save the Dates!

- Tuesday, January 23 at 4:30 pm (survivor/caregiver community dinner) Zion Lutheran Church, 113 W Main St, NM
- Saturday, April 21 ... MCS Administration Bldg. (404 W 9th St., NM)
 Survivor registration 11 am
 Survivor ceremony/lap 12pm
 Reception (lunch) following lap

If you would like more information, please contact Kim Duchane, 260-982-5382, kaduchane@manchester.edu

Serving for January 2018

8am Greeter — Don & Joyce Sparling

10am Liturgist — Melanie Penn

10am Greeters:

1/7 Ruth Biggs, Rollin McCoart
 1/14 Ruth Biggs, Rollin McCoart
 1/21 Ruth Biggs, Rollin McCoart
 1/28 Ruth Biggs, Rollin McCoart

10am Ushers — Kurt Brackenhamer, Ernie Passwater, Dave Wilhelm, Ned Woodward

Scripture Reading for January

1/7 Genesis 1:1-5; Psalm 29;
 Acts 19:1-7; Mark 1:4-11
 1/14 1 Samuel 3:1-10; Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18;
 1 Corinthians 6:12-20; John 1:43-51
 1/21 Jonah 3:1-5,10; Psalm 62:5-12;
 1 Corinthians 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20
 1/28 Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Psalm 111;
 1 Corinthians 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28

CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Worship Services
Sunday 8 am & 10 am
Sunday School for all ages 9 am

Phone: 260.563.3308
Email: wabashchristumc@hotmail.com

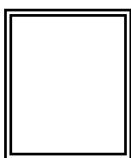


Items for the next newsletter should be submitted to the church office by **January 22nd.**

We're on the Web!
wabashchristumc.org



[Check us out on Facebook!](#)



Christ United Methodist Church
477 N. Wabash St.
Wabash IN 46992