**South Milwaukee United Methodist church**

1327 Marshall Ave, South Milwaukee, WI 53172

umcsm.org

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## *The Chimes*

##   *January 2018*

On the threshold of another New Year, I wish all God’s people a great year that is filled with faith, hope, love, joy, and health. The year 2018 marks significant since it is the year of 125th anniversary of our church. What a great year to remember God’s faithfulness and mercies to all who had been around him as church and serving him as his people to the community in South Milwaukee in the last 125 years!

The end of one year and the beginning of another is usually a time of remembering God’s faithfulness and unfailing love every step of the way. One of our hymns based on Lamentations 3:22 sings God’s faithfulness: “Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not; as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be…strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside…all I have needed thy hand hath provided; great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!”

We might not have experienced God providing all our needs as we prayed. Yet, God can be trusted more than anything or anyone in this world. He provides our need according his plans and in his time. ‘We don’t see the whole scope of God’s work from beginning to end even though he has planted eternity in our human heart’ Ecc. 3:11. He holds our future; the life is worth the living just because he lives.

We do not know what holds for us in the year we just have stepped in. But one thing we can be sure of: “Anyone who trusts in him will not be disappointed” Rom. 10:11. ‘When we walk with the Lord in the light of his word, what a glory he sheds on our way! While we do his good will, he abides with us still, and with all who will trust and obey.’

As the year comes to a close, we remember the good and bad times that came and went.  We saw great devastation; we also saw great love triumphing over hate in every occurrence of evil.

It is better to cling to love than to hate.  God is love; always it is the love that conquers over indifference and evil.  It provides the impetus to do more: to feed the hungry, to seek out the lonely, to visit the imprisoned, and to quench the thirsty. Let it be the love upon which our thoughts and prayers are grounded in 2018.

With standing on his promises let us walk with our eyes fixed on Jesus. God will make our way through everything by proving again that he is trustworthy. Consider joining one of the bible studies or devotions group to grow in spiritual discipline. Set apart a time for God in your daily life, a time for reading the Word and to be in prayer.

I will be available to visit homes of our parishioners to help in strengthening faith. Please feel free to invite me to your home or meet me in at church. May the Lord bless all of us abundantly in the year 2018.

*WISHING YOU ALL A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR!*

Harsha

**EDUCATION WORK AREA**

**In Need of Sunday School Teachers**

If you can help please let Loree Simuncak or Tammie Smith know.

*The Education Work Area*

**Culver’s Fundraiser**

There will be two upcoming fundraising events; February 20th and April 17th at Culver’s the corner of Howell and Drexel. Ave. 10% of sales when our voucher is presented will go to the church.

**Upcoming Children’s Performances**

The kids will perform in church on the following Sundays; 1/28, 2/25, 3/18, 4/22 and 5/20.

We had a packed house for the pageant presentation of “Christmas Snapshots”. Thank you to all who supported the program and came to the show!

The youth entertained the residents at Willowcrest on December 16th with Tone Chimes and Christmas songs. After the performance everyone stayed for games of Bingo with the kids!

On 12/30/17 the Youth brought in Baby Shower for Jesus items to Human Concerns. Afterward, they cleaned and organized within the building.

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**Bowling Outing**

Please join us at Classic Lanes, 5404 W. Layton ave on January 28th from 1-3 pm.

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**Ice Skating Outing**

Ice skating at Petit Center 500 S. 84th st on February 18 from 1-3 pm.

**MISSIONS WORK AREA**

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**Winter Wear Tree**

The winter wear tree will be left up to decorate again with scarves, caps, mittens, ect.The tree stays up the month of January. Those donations will be given to South Milwaukee Human Concerns.

 Here is the count of winter wear tree items that went to the Milwaukee Rescue Mission; 19 gloves/mittens, 1 afgan, 20 scarfs/head band sets, 16 caps, 1 boxed set(gloves,hat,scarf), 20 scarves, 2 hat & gloves sets, & 57 caps & scarves(from Doris). Thank you to all your generous donations.

**Pancake Breakfast**

There will be a Pancake Breakfast in January, no exact date chosen yet. Will be announced.

**Mission Sewing**

20 lap robes were taken to Cameo Care Center and 20 to Franciscan Villa. They were very appreciative. The Veterans Center will receive 20 lap robes. 2 quilts (made by Marge Stelzer) 2 baby blankets, and a girls dress was delivered to United Methodist Children’s Service.

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| **Ash Wednesday prayer** |
| https://download.newsletternewsletter.com/artlinelibrary/b/br/branches_16849c.gif Merciful God, you called us forth from the dust of the earth; you claimed us for Christ in the waters of baptism. Look upon us as we enter these Forty Days bearing the mark of ashes, and bless our journey through the desert of Lent to the font of rebirth. May our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; our prayer, the chant of humble and grateful hearts. —*Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers*  |

**Scripture Readingings for January, 2018**

**January 7**

Genesis 1:1-5

Psalm 29

Acts 19:1-7

Mark 1:4-11

**January 14**

1Samuel 3:1-10 (11-20)

Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

John 1:43-51

**January 21**

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Psalm 62:5-12

1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Mark 1:14-21

**January 28**

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Psalm 111

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Mark 1:21-28

**Scripture Reading For February**

 **February 4**

 Isaiah 40:21-31

 Psalm 147:1-11, 20c

 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

 Mark 1:29-39

 **February 11**

 2 Kings 2:1:12

 Psalm 50:1-1-6

 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

 Mark 9:2-9

 **February 14**

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

 Psalm 51:1-17

 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

 **February 18**

 Genesis 9:8-19

 Psalm 25:1-10

 1 Peter 3:18-22

 Mark 1:9-15

 **February 25**

Psalm 22:23-31

 Romans 4:13-25

 Marl 8:31-38

**Wills & Estates Committee**

 The year 2018 quickly came to a close. Now is a good time to review all the new year resolutions that were made when the year began. Hopefully, we can all say that it was a good year.

 When you think of your plans for 2018, remember to include our church in those plans. In order to carry out God’s and the church’s mission, your support of any kind is greatly needed and greatly appreciated.

 If one of your New Year’s Resolutions is to make the arrangements to make a gift to our church before or after your death, please consider calling the Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation. The staff at the Foundation has the experience and knowledge needed to help you make those plans correctly.

 The Foundation is located in Sun Prairie, Wisconsin. Their staff is always ready to visit you in your home or at our church. Please call the church office at 762-6030 or the Foundation at (Toll Free)1-888-903-9863 for more information. Thank you.

Mike Jankowski

Wills & Estates Committee

**Dates to Remember**

**January**

New Year’s Day, January 1, 2018

Epiphany, January 6, 2018

Baptism of the Lord, January 7, 2018

Martin Luther King, Jr Birthday Observance, January 15, 2018

Week of Prayer for Christian Unithy, January 18-25, 2018

**February**

African-American History Month

Transfiguration of the Lord, February 11, 2018

Ash Wednesday, February 14, 2018

First Sunday in Lent, February 18, 2018

Presidents day, February 19, 2018

Second Sunday in Lent, February 25, 2018

