

Lamp^{lighter}

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light until my path. Psalm 119:105

January 2017

from the Pastor's pen

As we start the New Year we are also in the new church season of Epiphany. This year, because Easter is later (April 16) Epiphany is a little longer, too. The Scripture readings we will encounter, for the Sundays after the Epiphany, show, in dramatic ways how people came to understand who Jesus was, through his baptism, the miracle at the wedding, or through that bodacious declaration in his hometown synagogue!

The word *epiphany* means *appearance or manifestation*. Some of us would use words such as “eureka” or “aha” like when that light bulb of understanding comes on.

In 2017 our lectionary gospel readings will come from the book of Matthew from where we can have our own “aha moments” of learning who Jesus is for us. The Christian author, Max Lucado, once wrote “*You just gotta wonder what Jesus saw in Matthew. He was a tax collector and that profession wasn't been too popular.*” Lucado goes on: “*While one wonders what Jesus saw in Matthew at the time, one also might question what Matthew saw in Jesus who was not a slick evangelistic recruiter and some of the clergy would not even give him the time of day. Whatever the mutual attraction, Matthew heard the call and never went back.*”

Matthew had – and will allow us to have our own - “aha moments” as we come to understand who Jesus was and what He had come to live among us for. The Three Wise Men, those iconic symbols of Epiphany, were Gentiles who also came seeking Jesus. Their understanding (aha!) included that Jesus belongs to everyone. Good news is for everyone, not just a select few.

The other thing the Wise Men are remembered for is their gifts to the Baby Jesus. As we enter this season of Epiphany will you give some thought to what *gift that you will offer to God in the coming year? The gift of time or your talents? Your service in the community? Your witness and testimony? The gift of undying love and devotion?*

There's no time like the New Year to make fresh commitments. Your “aha moment” may be as enlightening as the star the Wise Men followed. Blessings to all of you in 2017. I look forward to being in ministry with you and continue to be....Abiding in Him,

Pastor Dea



The K & C Giggers will start back up in January. We will meet the 2nd and 4th Thursdays from 6:00 – 7:30 pm. Please use the back entrance. We look forward to our time together to knitting, crocheting, and any other activity you would like to do. We hope to see more people for 2017. It is a fun time to fellowship as well. **For more information contact Ruth Reed 471-1393.**

Prayer Ministries

The prayer shawl ministry at this time consists of two people. If you would like to donate prayer shawls or lap throws they would be greatly appreciated. For 2015 we made 12 lap throws and gave out 3. In 2016 we made 6 and gave out 8. For 2017 so far we have made 7 and given out 2. We have 12 lap throws/shawls to begin 2017 with. Yes 2017 started after the Yearly Charge Conference in November 2016. Our items do not all have to be crocheted or knitted. **If you have any questions regarding this please contact Ruth Reed at 471-1393.**

UMW Dorothy's Circle

December

The December 15th meeting of the United Methodist Women's Dorothy Circle was held at President LaVada's house for a Christmas luncheon, and fellowship.

Present at the get-together were : Gretchen Arnold, Margo Bowler, LaVada Brown, Jessie Cooper, Suzie Gallivan, Twinkle Gordon, Ruth Gulley, Ethel Pierson, Ruth Ann Reed, Beulah Shaw, Pastor Dea Sharp, and Millie Ware.

What a delightful time we had! The main dish, BBQ beef (a recipe from a long-time-ago UMW member, Eula Mae Dougherty) was prepared by LaVada as was the coffee. LaVada also set a beautiful table with Christmas theme decorations and settings. We all thank you LaVada! The rest of the meal was pot luck with each lady bringing her favorite item to include; pinwheels, fruit salad, cherry and pumpkin pies, fresh tossed green salad, hot potato casserole, roles, cranberry-jello salad, green beans and lots of other delicious items too numerous to mention (but not too numerous to eat)!

LaVada had suggested that after our meal, that each of us think of a funny story to tell the rest of the group. As LaVada passed the "speaking spoon" to Twinkle a glass of water fell into Twinkle's lap, giving everyone the giggles and giving Twinkle another "funny story" to add to the list of our humorous tales! After our stories were finished and our meal had settled somewhat, we adjourned to the sitting room around a cozy fireplace and sang a couple of beloved Christmas songs, ending with the second verse of Silent Night! Ruth Ann Reed had prepared a precious, little angel decoration for each lady to take home with her, so we gathered up our covered dishes and with hugs and cheery thoughts for each other, we made our ways home.

Our appreciation is extended to Joe Brown, and Pastor Gene, for transporting several of our members back and forth, and to Photographer John Horbacz (Joe and LaVada's neighbor) who came last year to photograph our group and came by again this year for a photo shoot! God was honored throughout the day in every way.

Our next meeting on January 5, 2017, will be on Prayer and Self-denial so no refreshments will be provided, however, President Brown will supply bottled water.

Most Sincerely,
Gretchen



Joy to the World

Isaac Watts, Born, July 17, 1674 in Southampton, England
Died, November 25, 1749 in Stoke Newington, England

Isaac Watts was born prematurely which may have accounted for his small, five foot stature; however there was nothing small about his mind! By age four little Isaac had learned Latin, by age nine he had learned Greek, age ten found him speaking fluent French to his neighbors, and at thirteen he had conquered Hebrew!

With the love of the spoken word in his heart, young Isaac is said to have become frustrated with the dreary singing of the Psalms in his church. After hearing Isaac complain, the father challenged his son to write something better to sing and Isaac's first hymn was so well received by his church that he wrote a new hymn every Sunday for the next two years!

The majority of these songs were sung from manuscripts entitled, *Hymns and Spiritual Songs*, published in 1707, in England, and in both England and America, the poetry and hymns of Isaac Watts gained popularity. In 1729, Benjamin Franklin published the first American edition of the Hymnal, *Hymns and Spiritual Songs* by Isaac Watts. Although his poems and hymns brought Isaac fame during his lifetime, his song, "Joy to the World" is listed in North America, as the most published Christmas Hymn of the entire 20th Century.





Gretchen

Mel's Famous Biscuits & Gravy
MEN'S BREAKFAST
at 9am
Great Food, Fun and Fellowship!

Saturday, Jan 21st

January 2017

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

<p>1</p> <p>8:30am Choir Rehearsal 9:30am Adult SS 10:50am Worship & Children's SS</p> <p>New Year's Day</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>4:45pm TOPS 6:00pm CMC</p>	<p>4</p> <p>6:00pm CMC</p>	<p>5</p> <p>1:30pm Dorothy's Circle 6:00pm CMC</p> 	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>8:30am Choir Rehearsal 9:30am Adult SS 10:50am Worship & Children's SS</p>	<p>9</p> <p>6:00pm Adult Bible Study</p>	<p>10</p> <p>4:45pm TOPS</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p> <p>6:00pm Giggler's Group</p> 	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>10:00am Children's and Youth MinistryTeam</p>
<p>15</p> <p>8:30am Choir Rehearsal 9:30am Adult SS 10:50am Worship & Children's SS</p>	<p>16</p> <p>6:00pm Adult Bible Study</p>	<p>17</p> <p>4:45pm TOPS</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>9:00am Men's Fellowship Breakfast</p> 
<p>22</p> <p>8:30am Choir Rehearsal 9:30am Adult SS 10:50am Worship & Children's SS</p>	<p>23</p> <p>6:00pm Adult Bible Study</p>	<p>24</p> <p>4:45pm TOPS 6:00pm CMC</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <p>6:00pm CMC 6:00pm Giggler's Group</p> 	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>8:30am Choir Rehearsal 9:30am Adult SS 10:50am Worship &</p>	<p>30</p> <p>6:00pm Adult Bible Study</p>	<p>31</p> <p>4:45pm TOPS</p>				



The Prayer Corner

LEFTOVERS FROM "THE LIST"

Sooooooooooooooooooooo, now that all the preparation, celebration, and perhaps are faced with the "national war debt-like bills" incurred with the best of intentions; loom present in our lives now and the days ahead. what are we really left with? What part is the most important? Hint!!!! It's something we chose, CHECK, anticipate for a lifetime, CHECK, can share with others, CHECK, their choice to accept or decline, CHECK, AND THIS GIFT IS PRICELESS!!!!!!!!!!!!!! I would be surprised if you do not see this. Earthly gifts do not last. they may be pretty, and tasty, but what do we have to show for them? I'll help you out here...NOTHING but memories...which is not bad...but.....compare that with Hope, Joy, Peace, and Love... the gift Jesus Christ ! We often promise ourselves and others..(.with the best of intentions I might add) to be better, do better, live better. when we keep "kicking the can down the road" also called procrastination.

This gift of salvation and Bible-based promise of eternal life as you know can't be earned, bought, returned, or deserved. That is A GIFT like we have never received before. You can keep this for yourselves, or share. You know what is the right thing to do....but will you? That is between you and Jesus. No pressure here, but.... do you want to face God and say too busy, afraid, not my problem, or any other fabricated excuse? I think not.

You don't always have to "share with words" I am sure God would like it just fine if you "loved like Jesus, lived by His example, and made it a point to share with our little ones so that they, too can know the "true meaning of Christmas New Years and every day for the rest of their lives and ours. Let's not make this complicated.

Let's pray...

Dear God,

Please help me to be the person You created me to be... in thought, word and deed. I believe , Jesus, that You are my gift of salvation... a way of life that starts right here, right now and for all my days here on earth and for eternity with You in heaven.

Amen.

If you just prayed this with all your heart..That is YOUR GIFT to Jesus. Smile God loves you... now ... always has.... always will!

Twinkle



Heal me, O Lord, and I shall be healed; save me, and I shall be saved: For thou art my praise. Jeremiah 17:14

Kim Sommers and family on the passing of Grandma Edna Debbie Coyle
Susie Gallivan for Anjie's dog
Don Wiley
Melissa Stallings
Shirley, Co-worker of Alice Shartran
Herb & Beulah Shaw
Eddie, who sometimes parked his Jeep at the church

Family & friends of Roy Peterson, who passed away 1st week in December

Family & friends of Luana Clark who passed away December 4, 2016

Friends from Palisade church of Pastors Dea & Gene - Bill (and Susie) & Roberta (and Harvie)

Also friends for their friend Susan's husband , Bill, who passed away December 11, 2016

Levi Ware for friend "Bulldog" whose Uncle died
Karie Mullin's Sister moving to Co. Springs with three children
Friend of Debbie Pemberton, Brenda Hammond who had last Chemo Treatment.

TOPS Club (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)

TOPS is a very successful weight lose program. You pay a National Dues (\$32) and a monthly dues (\$4). You pay 25 cents to weigh in and if you have a gain you pay 25 cents. We have contests, programs and other fun activities.

In January 2017 we will be focusing on Anchors Away. We are wanting to lose weight and we know that with TOPS we can do it if we follow certain things. You can not lose weight if you do not do 2 things. Cut and Burn. Cut calories and burn carbs. (Portion control and exercise). We are going to be focusing on Cutting and Burning. We will discuss New Year's Resolution Reality Checks. We look forward to seeing you on Tuesdays. Weigh in starts at 4:45 – 5:15 p.m. and the meeting follows from 5:30 – 6:30 pm. We use the back entrance. **If you would like more information contact Ruth Reed at 471-1393.**

Ruth

Embrace Your Mistakes – “The only real mistake is the one from which we learn nothing.” ~John Powell.

Does it frustrate you when you do something wrong? Next time you make a mistake, instead of being hard on yourself, ask yourself what you can learn from it.

It won't help anyone to dwell on your mistake and feel guilty about it. Acknowledge that it happened, make amends if necessary, and move forward!

Submitted by Ann

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

5	Rachel Mae Williams
8	Kelly Baines
11	Melissa Baumgartner
11	Dalton Myers
13	Rachel Schilowsky
14	Mary Kay Marshal
16	Brad Remington
18	Jessie Cooper
22	Jim Rawlings
22	Marshel Thompson
23	Pastor Gene Sharp
24	Evalyn Drayton
24	Lori Lee Keating
28	Mel Trafton
30	Noah Baumgartner
30	Levi Ware

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

4	Russ & Virginia VanDerWege
12	Cletis & Ruth Ann Reed
21	Bill & Carole Garriott
26	Tyler & Christine Wood

Westside Cares



CHRISTMAS ADOPT-A-FAMILY

A huge *Thank You* to all who participated in the 2017 Christmas Adopt-a-Family program. Thanks to your generosity, 57 families (293 people) had a much brighter holiday.

WESTSIDE CARES 13TH ANNUAL PRAYER BREAKFAST

Please join us for his year's Prayer Breakfast on Tuesday, January 17th

St Paul Catholic Church will host the event with the Knights of Columbus providing yet another delicious breakfast.

Address: 9 El Pomar Rd. 80906

Time: 7:30 AM – 9 AM

Guest Speaker: Executive Director of Westside CARES, Steve Brown

Topic: “*That We May All Be One*”

Tickets are \$10 at the door.

Please RSVP to Maryann Stadjuhar at 389-0759 Ext. 104 or Maryann.Stadjuhar@westsidecares.org no later than Tuesday, January 10.

WESTSIDE CARES NEEDS...

We are in need of the following items:

- *Socks – Adult*
- *Underpants – Women's size 5 – 8, Men's – all sizes, Girls – all sizes*
- *Men's Jeans – size 30 -36*
- *Men's shoes*
- *Diapers sizes 1, 5 and 6*
- *Tampons and pads*
- *Shampoo, conditioner, lotion, deodorant, lg bar soap, toothpaste*

****No household items, please.*

JANUARY CLOSURES: Monday, January 2

(in honor of New Year's),

Monday, January 16th for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Debra.Mitguard@westsidecares.org

or call 719-389-0759 ext. 108.



Pastor Dea's Sermon Calendar

January 2017

- January 1 ~ Epiphany of the Lord
- Worship with Holy Communion
- "Us and Them"
- Matthew 2:1-12

- January 8 ~ Baptism of the Lord
- Reaffirmation of Baptism
- "Beginnings"
- Matthew 3:13-17

- January 15 ~ 2nd Sunday After the Epiphany
- Special Offering Sunday – Human Relations Day
- "Come and See"
- John 1:29-42

- January 22 ~ 3rd Sunday After the Epiphany
- "Whom or What Do You Follow?"
- Matthew 4:12-23

- January 29 ~ 4th Sunday After the Epiphany
- Worship with Holy Communion
- "Blessed Are..."
- Matthew 5:1-12

Pikes Peak

United Methodist Church

2927 W. Pikes Peak Ave. CO Springs, CO 80904

719-634-3589

www.pikespeakunitedmethodistchurch.com

Sunday Worship 10:50 AM

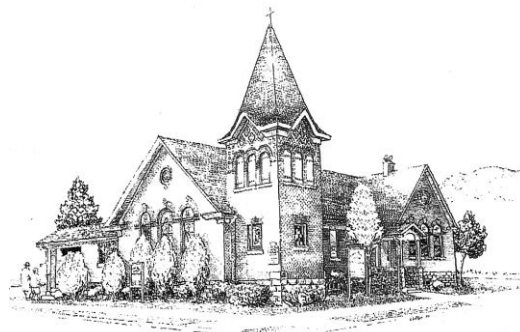
Pastor Dea Sharp

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Certified Lay Minister Twinkle Gordon

Director of Music Barbara Turner

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