



# JANUARY



DENISON UPC

205 North 24th St., Denison, IA 51442

2020

Office Hours:  
Monday – Friday  
9:00AM – 1:00PM  
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712-263-4130

Pastor:  
Rev. Jennifer Olson  
317-797-5860  
pastorjennolson@gmail.com  
Mondays 10AM-2PM  
Tue-Wed-Thurs  
9AM-2PM

Office Administrator:  
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Scott Schurke, Custodian  
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Email:  
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**Session**

Shar Hulstein  
Kendall Von Glan  
Bill Bruce  
Pat Chapman  
Wayne Igou  
Kyle Bohnker  
RoseMary Mason  
Carolyn Bukacek  
Clerk of Session:  
Penny Kinney

**Deacons**

Joyce Bohnker  
Marge Meyer  
Corrine Mehaffey-Kinney  
Jayne Lyons  
Denise Philipp  
Rebecca Brown  
Eric Olson  
Mary Ann Irwin  
David Moen

## PASTOR'S PONDERINGS ...

As a new decade is beginning, my thoughts turn to the future. What will this new year, and new decade of the '20s hold for me, for the congregation, for our country, and the world? Of course, many things we cannot know or control, much as we wish it were so. But there are some things we do have the power to do. Most importantly, perhaps, is that we move forward with intention, with prayer, and with God's guidance to what comes next. What desires are instilled deep within us that God is calling us to follow? Is United Presbyterian Church ready to hear and act on God's plan for us? I believe God has one and we can do much good in this hurting world.

Are we ready to stretch our arms out – not only to one another, but to the community, to needs around us? Where are there sparks of passion and interest among us, that others might help ignite? Perhaps we might become a "Matthew 25" congregation, as the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is inviting us to do. Feed the hungry, care for the poor and sick, visit the prisoner . . . Read more here: <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/matthew-25/>

As your pastor, I charge each of you to pray for our church, for God's guidance, and for the eyes to see, ears to hear, heart to follow, and the courage to act.

May God bless you with hope, peace, and joy in the New Year!

In Christ's love,

*Pastor Jennifer*

# JANUARY WORSHIP

**\*\*If anyone needs a ride to church on Sunday or any other activities at the church, please call Joyce Bohnker @ 269-0740 or the church Office 263-4130\*\***

**January 5@ 10:30AM w/ Communion**

Sunday School  
 Liturgist:  
 Tech: Shar Hulstein  
 Communion Servers: Kristy Zenk  
 Communion Set up:  
 Greeter/Usher:  
 Candle Lighters: Brandon Halsey & Thomas Gotto  
 Coffee Hour:

**January 12 @ 10:30AM**

Sunday School: Penny Kinney  
 Liturgist:  
 Tech: Rebecca Brown  
 Candle Lighters: Thomas & Tucker Gotto  
 Greeter/ Usher: Don & Marvis Krough  
 Coffee Hour: Worship Committee

**January 19 @ 10:30AM**

Sunday School:  
 Liturgist:  
 Tech: Kathy Jones  
 Special Music:  
 Candle Lighters: Tucker & Tanner Gotto  
 Greeter/ Usher: Jean Nihsen  
 Coffee Hour:

**January 26 @ 10:30AM Annual Meeting**

Sunday School:  
 Liturgist:  
 Tech: Shar Hulstein  
 Candle Lighters: Brandon Halsey & Tucker Gotto  
 Greeter/ Usher: Gayle & Maggie Chapman  
 Coffee Hour: Joyce Bohnker

**Please sign up in the red binder or call the church office.**

## YOUTH GROUP MEALS

January 8

January 15: Schmidt, Blair, Lyons

January 22: Joyce Bohnker

January 29: Ed & Marilynn Jepsen & Lindsey Gotto

**Please sign up in the red binder or call the church office.**



## ATTENDANCE REPORT

**Dec. 1**

**Worship 44**  
**Communion 44**  
**NO SS**

**Dec. 8**

**Worship 53**  
**SS 4**

**Dec.15**

**Cantata**  
**Worship 70**  
**SS 4**

**Dec. 22**

**SS Skit**  
**Worship 77**  
**SS 13**

**Dec. 24**

**Christmas Eve**  
**Worship 75**

**Dec. 29**

**Worship 35**

# Stewardship & Finance

Annual meeting is scheduled for January 26th following worship.

Please pick up your 2020 contribution envelopes in the Narthex. 2019 contribution statements will be available coming up in January.

Reminder that the new per capita amount for 2020 is \$40.76 per member.



GENERAL FUND:

BALANCED 11/30/19

## January Bible Trivia

Who served cheese, milk & veal to the Lord when he made His appearance in the form of three men?

- A) Samson B) Esau
- C) Elijah D) Abraham



*\*look for the answer in next month's newsletter*

## December Bible Trivia Answer

Which angel appeared to Mary?

A) Gabriel

See: Luke 1:26

C  
A  
N  
P

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K  
O  
B  
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J  
I

## THE ROCK

Youth in 3rd-12th grade are invited to spend a wintery weekend at Lakeshore Center

January 26-28



Coming Up at Lakeshore:

### Quilt Retreat

March 1-5, 2020

### Men's Retreat

March 13-15, 2020

1864 Highway 86 ~ Milford, IA 51351 ~ 712.337.3313  
Business Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9 a.m. -5 p.m. Central Time  
Office email: [office@lakeshorecenteratokoboji.org](mailto:office@lakeshorecenteratokoboji.org)  
For bookings & reservations: [info@lakeshorecenteratokoboji.org](mailto:info@lakeshorecenteratokoboji.org)

**SESSION**

Next Meeting: Thurs. Jan. 23 @ 7PM

The Elders met on Thursday December 5, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. Rev Jennifer Olson served as Moderator. Kendall Von Glan gave the devotions. The major focus of the meeting was to approve the 2020 budget. At the November meeting, the Finance Committee had given two proposals one with no increase in revenue and one with an estimated 25% increase in revenue. The Session approved the budget at 0% as amended to reflect the changes with an increase due to pledges received, and a reduction in the salary to reflect the change in employees' salaries for those requesting no increase for 2020. The Session set December 22, 2019 as the date for the Congregational Meeting to elect Deacons and Elders and to present the budget for 2020 to the congregation. The Session set the date for the Annual Meeting of the Congregation as Sunday January 26, 2020. The Session set Saturday January 25, 2020 for the Annual Officer Training.



The Congregational meeting to elect officers and receive the budget was held on Sunday December 22, 2019 immediately following the worship service, Rev. Jennifer Olson served as Moderator. The Nominating Committee presented the names of Corrine Kinney-Mehaffey (1<sup>st</sup> term), Marge Meyer (1<sup>st</sup> term) and Joyce Bohnker (2<sup>nd</sup> term) to serve as Deacons, no other nominations were submitted, a motion was made, and seconded to elect those named, motion approved. The Nominating Committee presented the names of Kendall Von Glan (2<sup>nd</sup> term) and Shar Hulstein (1<sup>st</sup> term) to serve as Elders, no other nominations were submitted, a motion was made, and seconded to elect those named, motion approved. Finance Committee chair, Bill Bruce presented the 2020 Budget approved by the Session. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Budget as approved by the Session, motion approved.

**DEACON & ELDER TRAINING**

Sat., Jan. 25 @ 9am

**Do we have 2020 Vision?****Officer Training on Sat. Jan. 25 from 9:00 am – Noon**

*All deacons and elders are expected to attend.* We'll be looking at the upcoming year, and working on our 2020 vision. I hope to "see" everyone there!

**An elementary teacher was observing her classroom of children as they drew. The teacher would occasionally walk around to see each child's artwork. As she came around to one little girl, who was working diligently, she asked what the drawing was. The little girl replied, "I'm drawing God."**

**The teacher said, "But no one knows what God looks like." Without missing a beat, or looking up from her drawing, the girl replied, "They will when I'm finished."**

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

Tue., Jan., @ 7PM

**Sunday school:** We are asking for volunteers to teach Sunday school. Materials are available or you can use your own. We have two classes Elementary and Middle/High school. Please sign up in the red book or contact a member of the Christian Education Committee. Thank you.

Looking forward to February: The youth will be helping with the Souper Bowl Sunday meal following church by making sandwiches and serving/cleanup. Joyce Bohnker is making chicken noodle soup and chili for this meal. There will be a basket for a goodwill donation with the proceeds going to TAP.

**Wednesday night youth:** For the months of January through April the Wednesday night youth will be meeting at the Presbyterian Church. Meal time at 5:30 p.m. and activity from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. If you know of youth who may be interested in coming please invite them or let a member of the Christian Education Committee know. We are looking for volunteers to host the meal on January 8<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. Please sign up in the red book or call the church office. Beginning in January, the Presbyterian/Methodist Youth Group will continue to meet on Wednesday evenings, however, it will only include elementary – middle school ages. Our high school attendance has been very low this year. We hope to rebuild and begin something new for high schoolers in the fall of 2020. Another change is the youth group will meet every week at the Presbyterian Church. We are still working with the Methodist Church as we pray for discernment about what the high school students' needs are. Your prayers are appreciated.

**Bible Study:** The adult Bible study meets on Thursday morning at 10:00 a.m. at the church. Pastor Jennifer is currently leading the study.

The Thursday Bible Study will be reading a novel in January. It's called *The Red Address Book* by Sofia Lundberg. Since so many of us read a lot, we thought it would be fun to read one together. Let Pastor Jenn know if you want her to order a book for you. If you would like to join us, we meet on Thursday mornings at 10:00 am. We open with prayer and coffee and always have lively discussions. Then we debate about where to go for lunch, and mostly end up at the Family Table



**BOARD OF DEACONS**

Next Meeting: Tue., Jan., 7 @ 6PM

The Board of Deacons met at the United Presbyterian Church on December 11, 2019 in the Fireside Room. Mary Ann Irwin, Vice Moderator, opened the meeting with prayer. Devotions were presented by Jayne Lyons.

The minutes from the November meeting were approved. Congregational Care updates were reported and discussed. Pastor Jennifer led worship and served communion at the Reed House and Denison Care Center. Statistics were reported for visits, calls, notes, etc. Deacons continue to pray for all church members.

Mary Ann reported on the Session Meeting in November. Communication between the Deacons and Session is valued as we work together.

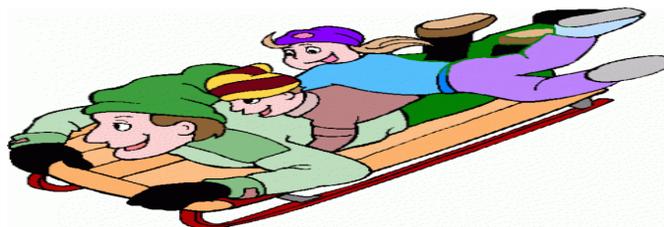
The Deacons planned an "Angel Tree" with gift ideas to purchase for a family in need. The congregation was asked for help in purchasing gifts for the children, for help with donations for Christmas dinner, and for help toward medical bills.

"Visitor Mugs" are now available. It was decided that mugs will be given to first time visitors/prospective members. Both husband and wife will receive a mug. A few empty mugs are still available for sale to the congregation at \$5.00 each.

Deacons signed up for a month to give devotions in 2020. Prayer lists will be revised and switched for the next year.

The meeting adjourned and was closed with the Lord's Prayer. The next deacon meeting will be on January 7, 2020.

*Mary Ann Irwin, Secretary*

**THANK YOU**

Thank you to Cathy Christiansen & Bette Bruce for their service as a Deacon.

Thank you also goes out to Beth Argotsinger for serving on Session.

We thank these servants for their time & talents given to our congregation.

Welcome Marge Meyer & Corrine Kinney-Mehaffey as new Deacons.

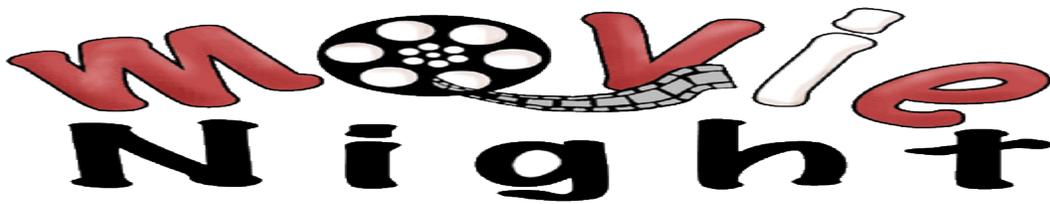
Welcome to Shar Hulstein as a new Session member.

A continued thank you to Kendall Von Glan & Joyce Bohnker for continuing to their second terms.

## What's the Pastor Reading this Month?



A few months ago, I read a wonderful book called *Ordinary Grace* by William Kent Krueger. His new book, *This Tender Land* just came out. Eric read it first on a trip to California. I am well into it, and am enjoying it greatly. His characters really come alive and you feel like you know them. I also finished the book, *Talking to Strangers: What We Should Know about the People We Don't Know*. I "read" it as an audiobook, which was perfect because Gladwell includes sound clips from news stories. It is not a generalization when I say that this book changed the way I see the world. People, Book of the Week describe it well: "Powerful advice on truly getting to know others. Gladwell brilliantly argues that we should stop assuming, realize no one's transparent and understand that behavior is tied to unseen circumstances." He uses the stories of Sandra Bland (Black Lives Matter); Jerry Sandusky (Penn State child abuse); Brock Turner (Stanford swimmer who raped a woman); Amanda Knox; Sylvia Plath; Neville Chamberlin thinking that Hitler was telling him the truth, and more. It's fascinating. I highly recommend it. Quietly waiting is a book Joyce Bohnker lent me. *Love Thy Neighbor: A Muslim Doctor's Struggle for Home in Rural America*, by Ayaz Virji. I'll tell you about it next month. Happy reading!



A movie night in January is being planned, but the movie and date have not yet been selected. Stay tuned for an announcement in the Sunday bulletin and an email blast.

Going over church finances, the treasurer found a receipt from a local paint store signed by someone named Christian. The treasurer wasn't aware of anyone buying paint, so the he called the store to point out the mistake, "I'm sorry," he told the manager, "but there are no Christians here at Middle Creek Church."

## PER CAPITA 2020

As usual, every year United Presbyterian Church is required to send in per capita to the Presbytery according to our membership. For 2020 we will be required to pay \$40.76 per member. We would appreciate every member submitting their per capita. You can submit to office or put in the Sunday collection plate.



## A MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP

Thank you to all who returned their pledge cards. During 2019, 74 members contributed to the church financially. We had 31 pledge cards returned. If you did not return your card, you may still send it in at any time. I want to apologize for not having the return envelopes enclosed as the letter stated; my being 1800 miles away presented a few glitches.

Members attending the December 22 congregational meeting saw and heard the report from the Budget and Finance committee. We seek to be diligent in all areas of stewardship- with finances, time, talents, and all the gifts God has bestowed upon us. If you have questions or concerns, please talk to a member of the committee.

*On behalf of Stewardship,*

*Denise Philipp*



## MISSION

### When were you hungry? When were you thirsty?

In January, the mission committee is focusing on four countries where famine has been officially declared. Unfortunately, many countries have food shortages, but famine is an entirely different ball game. To have an official designation of famine 20% of households face an extreme lack of food, 30% have acute malnutrition and large numbers actually die of starvation every single day. We are asking for your financial help and actions you can take to “inspire” our own government to help. Here is the situation in these countries.

In **Nigeria** facing conflict with Boko Haram, 2 million are displaced and 3 million are entirely dependent of food assistance for survival, 943,000 children under 5 are malnourished and 1 latrine is shared by almost 500 people—imagine sharing *your* bathroom with 500 people.

In **South Sudan** after 30 years of civil war, their independence did not lead to peace. After the death of 400,000 many were forced to flee. 2.2 million are displaced, 2 million are refugees, and more than half the population is at risk of acute food insecurity.

In **Yemen** as a result of war, 85 thousand children under 5 died from starvation between April of 2015 and October of 2018 , 7.4 million need assistance to treat and prevent malnutrition, more than 17 million need clean water and sanitation.

In **Somalia** droughts and floods, chronic food shortages, and violent conflict between Al-Shabab militants and Somali government forces has led the country to be in a constant state of crisis since 1991. In 2018 flooding caused more than 1000 to die, 22 nutritional centers treating more than 6000 acutely malnourished children to shut down, and ruined acres of crops. Over 5 million are needing food, over 2 million are displaced and nearly a million have fled as refugees to neighboring countries.

**ACTION:** Send a check to United Presbyterian Church or drop it in the collection plate and mark it HUNGER across the top. Also You can urge congress to:

\_\_\_ To advance global nutrition: <http://bit.ly/breadletter19>

\_\_\_ Support peacebuilding in South Sudan: <http://bit.ly/sudanpcusa>

\_\_\_ Oppose further cuts to the International Affairs Budget, so the U.S. can continue to respond to famine and other global hunger crisis.

Contact your U.S. representative at (202) 225 3121 and your senators at (202) 224 3121.

We have a \$2 from you to \$1 matching gift donation of up to \$500 from one church member.

## **POINSETTIAS**

### **In Memory of...**

Scott Chapman  
Scott Chapman  
Stephen Moore  
Our Loved Ones  
Family & Friends

Bob & Edith Lyons  
Olin & Bette Vittetoe  
Bill & Clara Bruce  
Carol Igou  
Vernon Kuehnhold & loved ones  
"Sarge" Webber

Garry Chapman  
Loved Ones  
Margie Kienapfel  
Tom & Dorothy Sharp  
Donald Sharp  
Esther Blankenship  
Waren & Alice Olson  
Kay Moen Wolff  
Ruth Moen  
Lois McCollough  
Our Parents

### **In Honor of...**

Family & Friends

Dan Lyons & Bob Buol

### **Given By...**

Harold & Elaine Chapman  
Gayle & Maggie Chapman  
Gayle & Maggie Chapman  
Steve & Deb Fitzgerald  
Duane, Kristy, Gene & Tim Zenk  
Earl & Mary Lou Olsen  
Don, Jayne, & Robert Lyons  
Bill & Bette Bruce  
Bill & Bette Bruce  
Wayne Igou  
Donna Kuehnhold  
Webber Family  
Pat, Becky & family, Deb & family  
Pat Chapman & Family  
Ron & Carole Evilsizer  
Ron & Carole Evilsizer  
Ron & Carole Evilsizer  
Ron & Carole Evilsizer  
Dale & Penny Kinney  
David Moen  
David Moen  
Richard & Cathy Christiansen  
Jerry & Patti Boettger

### **Given By...**

Duane, Kristy, Gene & Tim Zenk  
Earl & Mary Lou Olsen  
Don, Jayne & Robert Lyons



Please pick up your Poinsettias. If you do not pick your order up... they will be thrown away or given away.

If you can't make it to the church before January 3rd. Please call the office to save yours back. Thank you.

## The Work of Christmas

When the song of the angels is stilled,  
 When the star in the sky is gone,  
 When the kings and princes are home,  
 When the shepherds are back with their flock,  
 The work of Christmas begins:

To find the lost,  
 To heal the broken,  
 To feed the hungry,  
 To release the prisoner,  
 To rebuild the nations,  
 To bring peace among others,  
 To make music in the heart.

*Howard Thurman*

## STAR WORDS for 2020

On Sunday, Jan. 5, Pastor Jenn will be giving out Star Words during the worship service. Each person can pick a word written on a paper star which will be your “star word” for the upcoming year. Consider your star word to be a guiding word that God will use to speak to you, teach you new things, and to remind you of what is important. Periodically during the year, Pastor Jenn will ask people to share how their star word is showing up in their life. If you can’t be at church on Jan. 5, you can pick one up anytime the office is open or on Sundays.



The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held

January 26, 2020

## What is Per Capita?

Per capita is an annual per member apportionment assessed by the General Assembly (Book of Order, G-3.0106), and by many synods and presbyteries, to enable Presbyterians mutually and equitably to share the ecclesiastical and administrative costs of sustaining our witness to Christ through the Presbyterian Church (USA).

Per Capita is a fundamental way in which all of the nearly 10,000 congregations and mid councils of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) connect, participate and share in the work of the wider church. Per capita is the primary source of funding for the Office of the General Assembly, and is how Presbyterians mutually and equitably share the costs of coming together to discern the Spirit's leading for the future.

: It is how Presbyterians are trained to become better ruling elders, teaching elders and deacons, and ministers.

: It is how Presbyterians are helped to discern God's call in their lives.

: It is how Presbyterians participate in the life of the wider church by serving on General Assembly committees and commissions, regardless of distance or financial resources.

: It is how Presbyterians participate in the life of the Church universal as we commit ourselves to work and live in fellowship with "all persons in every nation" (Book of Order, G-4.0101)

All Presbyterians are called to take part in the ecclesiastical and administrative work shared by the whole church through per capita giving. The annual rate is a per-member apportionment that is assessed biennially by the General Assembly. (Book of Order, G-3.0106) All congregations — large and small — are encouraged to participate, either through an annual budget item or through a special direct appeal to their congregations.

**Two well worn bills arrived at the Federal Reserve Bank to be retired - a twenty and a one. As they traveled down the conveyor belt, they struck up a conversation. The twenty reminisced about the interesting life he had, traveling all over the country. "I've been to the finest restaurants, Broadway shows, Las Vegas , Atlantic City ," he said. "I even want on a Caribbean cruise. Where have you been?"**

**"Oh," said the one dollar bill, "I've been to the Methodist church, the Episcopal church, the Lutheran church."**

**"What's a church?" asked the twenty.**

### Bible Verses to Investigate...

Jeremiah 31: 7-14

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Matthew 4:12-23



## HOW DID PER CAPITA GET STARTED?

HOW DID PER CAPITA GET STARTED? The earliest Presbyterian General Assemblies in the U.S. met annually, always in Philadelphia. As the church expanded into far-off places like Ohio, Kentucky, and Missouri, attendance at the Assembly became prohibitively expensive to frontier commissioners. In order to share the costs of bringing the whole church together, in 1806 the Assembly began development of a “Commissioner Travel Expense Fund.” Over the years this came to be known as per capita.

WHERE DOES THE GA PORTION OF MY PER CAPITA CONTRIBUTION GO? Through your per capita contributions, which provide almost the entire budget of the Office of the General Assembly, you enable many faithful ministries, including: Discerning God’s will together as a denomination — Through biennial General Assemblies (GA) — covering expenses for commissioners and advisory delegates, the venue, technology, training of leaders, the exhibit hall, and more — Through special committees established by a GA to dig deeply into issues of particular concern to the church, and through standing committees providing guidance for ongoing work: Training church leaders — for sessions, congregations, and mid councils through events and the new “Equip PC(USA)” online platform: Engaging with those studying and preparing for ministry — Through ordination exams and connections with seminaries — Through support for Certified Christian Educators: Supporting the call processes of churches through the Church Leadership Connection online portal and personal consultations

Building connections with local councils — Through the travel and presence of the GA Co-Moderators, the Stated Clerk, and OGA staff — Through various communications: Engaging local communities as neighbors through the “Hands and Feet” initiative — including the “End Cash Bail” campaign and work happening now in Baltimore prior to the 224th GA in summer 2020: Preserving and maintaining our history through the Presbyterian Historical Society, which can preserve the minutes and other history of your congregation, along with other records of the PC(USA): Attending to the covenant life of the PC(USA) — By editing and publishing of the Book of Order every two years — By interpreting the Book of Order and supporting judicial process for discipline and restoration — By supporting and holding accountable all work of representation and inclusion to help the church more clearly reflect Christ’s Beloved Community — By supporting Korean-speaking councils — By collecting and tracking statistics about the PC(USA): Engaging in issues of justice through immigration advocacy and legal support, including helping church workers from abroad obtain the appropriate visas Supporting and engaging in ecumenical and interreligious witness and relationships locally and worldwide



## DECEMBER PUZZLE ANSWERS

10. Hebrews 4:12 "double-edged **s**word....joints and **m**arrow..."
11. I Peter 2:5 "like living **s**tones..."
12. John 15:5 "you are the **b**ranches...you will bear much fruit..."
13. Revelation 1:14 "The **h**air on his head was white like wool, as white as **s**now..."
14. Mark 1:39 "**p**reaching in their synagogues..."
15. Job 25:4-6 "If even the moon is not **b**right and the **s**tars are not pure..."

## PASTOR'S PONDERINGS..... continued

Thanks, Robert Frost

Do you have hope for the future?

someone asked Robert Frost, toward the end.

Yes, and even for the past, he replied,

*that it will turn out to have been all right*

*for what it was, something we can accept,*

mistakes made by the selves we had to be,

not able to be, perhaps, what we wished,

or what looking back half the time it seems

we could so easily have been, or ought . . .

the future, yes, and even for the past,

that it will become something we can bear.

And I too, and my children, so I hope,

Will recall as not too heavy the tug

Of those albatrosses I sadly placed

Upon their tender necks. *Hope for the past,*

Hope

Yes, old Frost, your words provide that courage,  
and it brings strange peace that itself passes  
into past, easier to bear because  
you said it, rather causally, as snow  
went on falling in Vermont years ago.

David Ray



## JANUARY PUZZLE

# Daniel in the Lions' Den Word Search



Read the story below. Find and circle the words that are **underlined**. The words can appear in any direction: horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backwards.

## Daniel in the Lions' Den - Daniel 6

**Daniel** was a good and able man. So the king planned to put him in charge of the whole **kingdom**. But the other **leaders** and the **royal** rulers were unhappy and tried to bring charges against Daniel. But they couldn't find any **fault** with his work.

Finally these men said, "It is **impossible** for us to bring charges against Daniel. If we find a reason, it will have to be in connection with the law of his God."

So the leaders and the royal **rulers** said to the king, "King **Darius**, you should give an **official** order that for the next 30 days, anyone who prays to any god except you will be **thrown** into the **lions'** den. And you should write it down so it can't be changed." So King Darius put the order in **writing**.

When Daniel found out about this, he did just as he had always done. He went home to his **upstairs** room, got down on his knees and **prayed**. He went to his room three times a day to pray.

Some royal officials saw him praying. So they went to the king and said, "Didn't you sign an official **order** that for the next 30 days, **anyone** who prays to any god except you would be thrown into the lions' den?" The king answered, "The order must be **obeyed**." Then they said, "Daniel still prays to his God three times a day." When the king heard this, he was very upset.

Then the men said, "Your Majesty, **remember** that no order you give can be **changed**." So the king gave the order and Daniel was thrown into the lions' den. The king returned to his **palace**. He didn't eat anything that night. And he couldn't sleep.

As soon as the sun began to rise, the king **hurried** to the lions' den. He called out, "Daniel! Has your God saved you from the lions?" Daniel answered, "My God sent his **angel** and **shut** the **mouths** of the lions. They have not hurt me." The king was filled with joy and ordered his **servants** to lift Daniel out of the den.

Then the king gave another order. The men who had said bad things about Daniel were thrown into the lions' den.

B	U	V	R	V	B	T	R	J	H	R	C	H	K	N
R	Q	A	Z	T	U	T	H	R	O	W	N	F	U	S
E	S	R	L	H	R	V	W	F	O	M	X	J	P	K
L	E	U	S	U	P	G	F	B	O	Y	Y	P	S	D
X	A	L	I	R	L	I	N	U	O	K	A	A	T	V
F	J	E	B	R	C	D	T	I	N	J	W	L	A	B
N	O	R	I	I	A	H	E	P	T	V	J	A	I	P
C	X	S	A	E	S	D	A	Y	E	I	S	C	R	H
I	T	L	S	D	A	S	T	N	A	V	R	E	S	C
O	Q	K	I	N	G	D	O	M	G	R	M	W	T	B
L	B	W	I	A	O	Y	E	P	N	I	P	Z	N	M
I	I	E	S	B	N	I	J	R	M	M	D	G	V	J
Z	I	K	Y	A	Q	G	L	R	S	I	E	W	E	N
O	A	Z	U	E	X	S	E	W	E	S	S	V	P	S
F	H	O	R	E	D	R	O	L	X	I	Z	R	G	R

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Since 1990, young people have been leading the charge and inspiring others to collect dollars and food weeks leading up to the Big Game. Teaming up with local partners, these groups give 100% of donations to local charities, changing the nation's largest weekend of football into the largest weekend of caring.

**FEBRUARY 2nd, following worship service**

Our free will donations will be given to our local TAP

**WOMEN OF THE WELL (WOW)**

March 17, 2020 @ 7PM

On Tuesday, December 16, WOW sponsored a Christmas gathering for women of our congregation. Ten women enjoyed a potluck dinner in the church narthex. Thank you to Marilyn for the beautiful table setting, to Ann for her reflection on all God has given us, and to Phyllis and Corrinne for the fun trivia and Christmas bingo games.

WOW will not be meeting in January or February. We will reconvene on March 17 at 7 p.m. in the church fellowship hall. In 2020 we will be using the Horizons Bible Study on God's Love Letters: The 10 Commandments, as our focus. Until then, our wishes for a blessed new year!

**The pastor was looking over the crèche the day after Christmas when he noticed that the baby Jesus was missing. He went outside and saw a little boy pulling a new red wagon. In the wagon was Jesus.**

**We walked up to the boy and said, "Hi, there. Where did you get the baby Jesus?"**

**The boy answered honestly, "In the church."**

**"Why did you take him?" the pastor asked.**

**"Well," said the boy, "I prayed to the Lord Jesus and asked him for a wagon for Christmas. I told Him that if He gave me one, I'd take Him for a ride in it."**

# JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

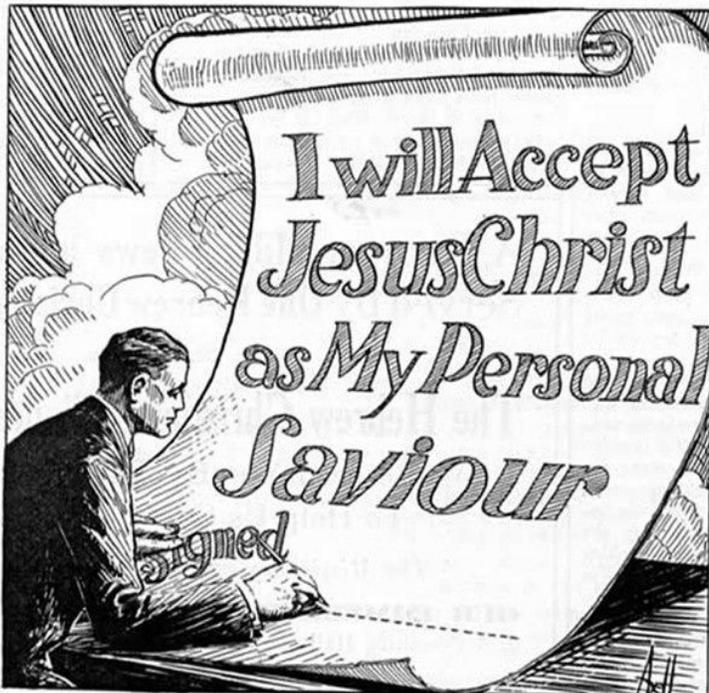
1/5 Kristy Zenk  
1/7 Kenny Davis  
1/8 Phyllis Harms  
1/9 Daymon Schmidt  
1/13 Bob Irwin

1/14 Kathy Jones  
1/17 Ron Evilsizer  
1/18 Vicki Nixon  
1/20 Gayle Chapman  
1/30 Juli Boettger

# JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

1/9 Rev. Jennifer & Eric Olson  
1/13 Dr. Drexel & Vicki Nixon

START THE NEW YEAR RIGHT



Adopt the greatest resolution one can make

[JesusDied4You.info](http://JesusDied4You.info)

