

The Messenger



Volume 20 No. 1

January 2020

The Newsletter of The United Church of Sandwich

*"Passionately united to feed all people — body, mind and spirit —
To the glory of God!"*

Greetings,

Before the service began one Sunday morning, a parishioner said to his pastor, "If you see me fall asleep while you're preaching, don't take it personally. It's not that your sermon is boring. It's just that I was taking inventory of all my merchandise last night and I didn't get to bed until the wee hours of the morning. This is that time of the year, you know. I discovered a lot of merchandise that I didn't sell during the year. I came to realize how many mistakes I had made. Some shelves were empty and others were full of goods that had not sold. Apparently I had bought too much of what I shouldn't have and didn't buy enough of others that were good sellers." Then he asked the pastor, "Don't you think that at the beginning of each new year every one of us should take inventory of our lives?"

I found this story in a devotion and it made me think about the new year. The main purpose of an inventory is to determine whether a loss or gain has been realized. We should ask ourselves how our lives have influenced others. We can learn from a look at our past, our present—and even our plans for the future. And what better time than at the beginning of a new year. I recently watched the movie "It's a Wonderful Life" and the affect we have on others. So, with that in mind, let's take a look at ourselves. Have we been a blessing on others in 2019? Can we be a blessing on others in 2020?

Thank God for the blessings of your life. Some of those blessings are obvious and some are subtle. Where have you touched the life of another? Where have you washed the feet of another? I am sure that as you recalled the blessings God has given you, those blessings came through one of His servants. You are the servant of God's blessings to another. Celebrate 2019 as a year of experiencing God's blessings and being God's blessings? Even if 2019 was a tough year or a disappointing year, remember the words of Christ.

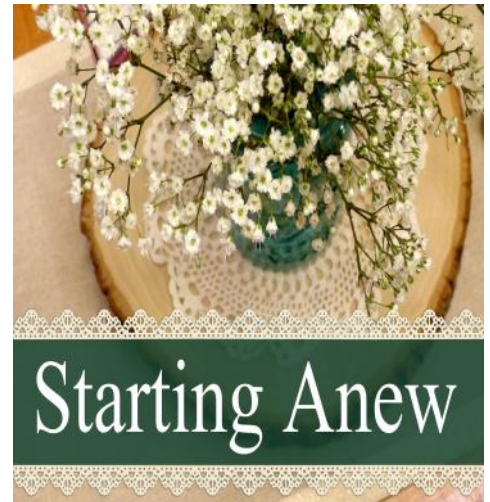
Jesus said that a certain man planted a fig tree. He dug about it, fertilized it and cared for it. He expected fruit from the tree, but year after year it was barren. Finally he said to the keeper, "Cut this tree down; it cumbers the ground." The keeper interceded, saying, "Give the tree another chance, please. Give it just one more year and then if it doesn't bear fruit we will cut it down." The man agreed to spare the tree for another (Luke 13).

Maybe you are like that tree. God has watched over you, cared for you, and blessed you down through the years. But you have disappointed Him. You haven't been faithful. You haven't born any fruit. Who knows but that you may be cut down before another year is over. But thank God, He is giving you another year. He is eternally the God of the second chance. So, if your past haunts you, resolve by God's help not to repeat its mistakes. One day a college girl was tacking her calendar for the new year on her dorm room wall. She said to her roommate, "It's going to be a beautiful year!" "How do you know that?" asked her roommate. "Well," she replied, "a day isn't a long time and I know its going to be beautiful because I'm going to take a day at a time and make it so. I will see that every one of those 365 days gets at least one beautiful thing into it through my efforts." Take is a wonderful attitude to have to make 2020 an amazing year. We even get 366 days this year! Take each day one at a time. Find one blessing from God each day. Be one blessing from God each day. If you do I promise that you will look back on 2020 as one of your most successful ever.

On a final note, my family would like to thank this church for the blessing you have been to us. You have made the transition and last six months a joyous and comforting experience! God bless you all.

Happy New Year!

Rev. Tom Bourke



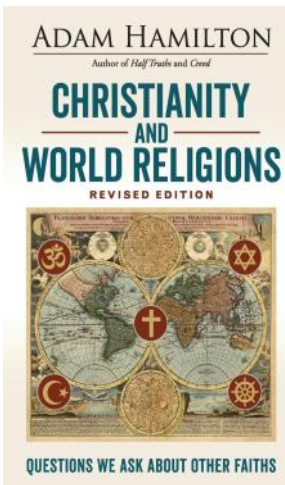
Sunday Scriptures and Themes for January

January 5 Micah 7:18-20 ~ *“Starting Afresh”* Happy New Year!
John 15:5-8

January 12 Micah 6:8 ~ *“Walk Humbly with the Lord”* What Does God Require of You?
Phillipians 2:5-11

January 19 Micah 6:8 ~ *“Love Mercy”* What Does God Require of You?
John 15:9-17

January 26 Micah 6:8 ~ *“Seek Justice”* What Does God Require of You?
Matthew 5:38-48



We will begin Adult Sunday School on January 12th with 2 independent Bible Studies. Our Next Bible Study Series ***Christianity & the World Religions*** will begin on January 26th thru March 29th. Below is the description...

In ***Christianity and World Religions***, Pastor and best-selling author Adam Hamilton explores four major world religions—Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, and Judaism—and the beliefs of each with those of Christianity. He deals openly and honestly with questions people ask about other religions like:

- Why are there so many different religions?
- How should Christians view other religions?
- How is God at work in other religions?
- What is the fate of those who earnestly pursue God through other religions?

In examining these major world religions and the beliefs of their followers, Hamilton urges us as Christians to build bridges with others so that we might grow in our faith, seek peace in our world, love our neighbor, and find positive ways to share the gospel.

If you have any questions, please contact pastor Tom at tombourkejr@gmail.com or 630-699-2474.



EPIC Youth Group will be meeting at United Church of Sandwich for the month of January. Sundays 4-6 pm. If you would like to volunteer to provide a meal, sign up in the narthex at the church or contact the church office at 815-786-9243 or use the

Meal Train website (<https://mealtrain.com/1505o3>) for open dates. You may make a donation to cover the cost of a meal, order a meal for us, or actually make the meal yourself. Students in 6th grade through college are welcome to participate in games, Bible study, and dinner.

MISSION OF THE MONTH


GOOD SAMARITAN FUND

of the Sandwich-Somonauk Area Churches

The Good Samaritan Fund seeks to assist families and individuals with emergency needs.

Thank you, Mission Committee

Bible Quiz



According to Matthew, who was present at Jesus' baptism? (Choose as many as apply.)

- A. John the Baptist
- B. The Spirit of God
- C. Jesus' mother, Mary
- D. His first disciples

Answer: A and B (See Matthew 3:13-17.)



United Methodist Men meet on Sunday, January 5th at 7:30 am for breakfast and fellowship. All men are invited to attend!



United Methodist Women will meet Thursday, January 9th at 9:30am in the chapel.

U'Niter's do not meet in January or February.

Make sure your offering is used the way you want using your envelope!

When you give to your church, sometimes you want your gift designated for a special purpose (mission of the month, flowers, a special project, apportionment, etc.).

So: Whenever you give, *use your offering envelope and write on it where you want your gift to go.* If it isn't designated, your offering will go in the general fund to pay current expenses.

If you made specific designations when you turned in your annual pledge card, you also must make them each time you give.

If you give on line, there is a screen where you are asked to indicate how you want your gift to be used before you submit your payment.

If you use bill pay through your bank, there should be a place to write a memo on your check.

Don't have envelopes? Call the office and we will be glad to give you a set. Or you can use the envelopes in the pew pockets.

Help us be good stewards of your gifts.



BAKE SALE BAKE SALE

Sunday, January 5th will be the next bake sale to benefit the Apportionment Committee. Luncheon committee #1 will have an assortment of baked items to sell. If you have any questions, please see Pam Nehring.

Thanks for your help.
The Finance Committee



Finance Committee meets Thursday, January 16th at 6:30pm

Trustees Board will meet Tuesday, January 21st at 6:30pm.

Administrative Council will meet Thursday, January 30th at 6:30pm.



Fourth Sunday Coffee Hour hosts for January 26th is Trustees. In the chapel after worship service.

Sandwich/Somonauk Ministerial Alliance 4TH TUESDAY COMMUNITY FREE FELLOWSHIP FEAST

4:30 – 6:00 pm
Tues., January 28th, 2020
Church of the Nazarene
205 W College St Sandwich
815-786-8230



ALL ARE WELCOME!
Invite your friends and family to come as well!

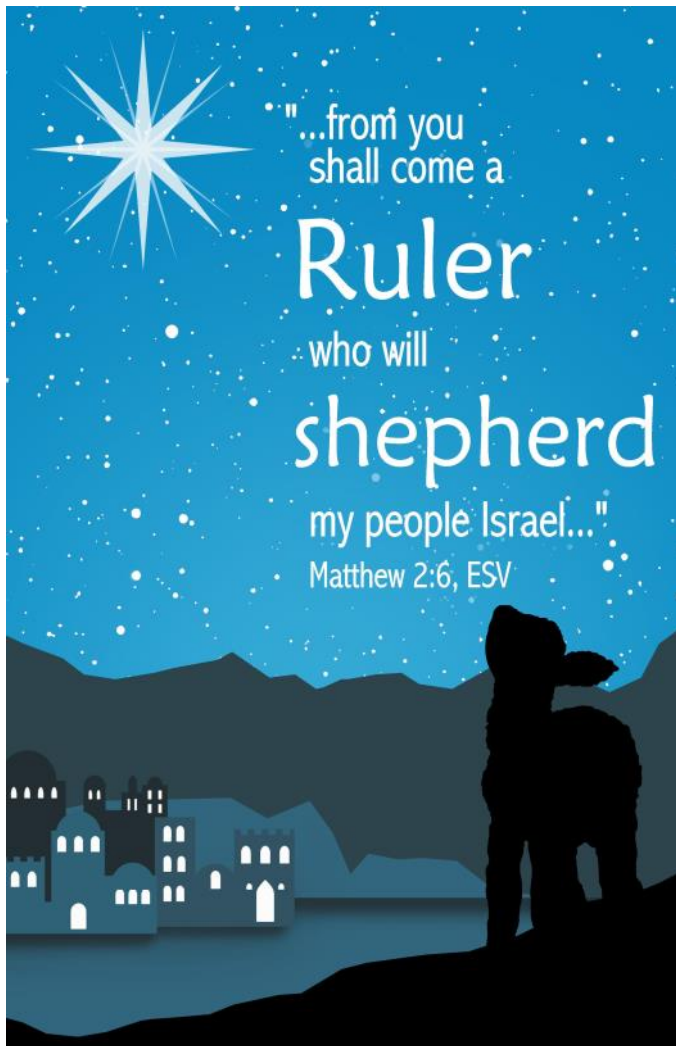
Upcoming feasts:
Tues., February 25 @ Union Congregational Church
Tues., March 24 @ United Church of Sandwich
Tues., April 28 @ Somonauk Baptist Church

2020 Worship Assistants

2020	Liturgist	Greeters	Ushers
05 Jan	Myrtie Warren	Earl Shaffer	Doug & Melissa Reiners
12 Jan	John Hallaron	Jim & Connie Mitchell	Gary & Judy Anderson
19 Jan	Diane Pearson	Ione Martin	Craig & Donna Ostrye
26 Jan	Sandy Whiteis	Diane Salisbury	Ron & Kim Henrich
02 Feb	Sarah Stevens	Jerry & Nancy Brown	Al & Myrtie Warren
09 Feb	Pam Nehring	Marilyn Steenwyk	Doug Reiners/Earl Shaffer
16 Feb	Craig Ostrye	Myrtie & Al Warren	Gwen Fox/Chris Bagwill
23 Feb	Doug Reiners	Gwen Fox	Matt & Joanna Olson
Ash Wednesday 26 Feb		TBA	TBA
01 Mar	Deb Seymour	Bev Lowe	Monty & Betty Reiners
08 Mar	Bonnie Miller	Gary & Judy Anderson	Jim & Connie Mitchell
15 Mar	Kevin Duy	Phyllis Davis	Al & Myrtie Warren
22 Mar	Diane Pearson	Ed & Jane Heyer	Doug & Melissa Reiners
29 Mar	Les Banks	John & Pat Hallaron	Deb Seymour/Angie Miller
Palm Sunday 05 Apr	Chris Bagwill	Ione Martin	Bill & Christine McMahon
Vaundy Thursday 09 Apr	TBA	TBA	TBA
Good Friday 10 Apr	TBA	TBA	TBA
Easter Sunday Early 12 Apr	TBA	TBA	TBA
Easter Sunday 10:00 12 Apr	TBA	TBA	TBA
19 Apr	Donna Ostrye	Monty & Betty Reiners	Ron & Kim Henrich
26 Apr	John Hallaron	Jim & Bonnie Bernhardt	Reid & Deb Heinekamp
03 May	Owen Bourke	Craig & Donna Ostrye	Al & Myrtie Warren
10 May	Diane Pearson	Marilyn Steenwyk	Kevin & Linda Duy
17 May	Craig Ostrye	Bev Lowe	Matt & Joanna Olson
24 May	Chris Bagwill	Carole & Ed Forman	Monty & Betty Reiners
31 May	Bonnie Miller	Gary & Judy Anderson	Josh & Mindy Chrestman
07 Jun	Myrtie Warren	Angie Miller/Jeff Larson	Jim & Connie Mitchell
14 Jun	Deb Seymour	Lynn Reeder	Diane Salisbury, Craig Johnso & Andrew Salisbury
21 Jun	Kevin Duy	Earl Shaffer	Reid & Deb Heinekamp

2020 Communion Ministers

Month	Names	Names	Names
January	Diane Salisbury	Bonnie Miller	Angie Miller
February	Jim Updike	Lori Updike	Phyllis Davis
March	Deb Heinekamp	Reid Heinekamp	Angie Miller
April	Matt Olson	Joanna Olson	Bonnie Miller
May	Diane Salisbury	Rick Hill	Debby Hill
June	Jim Bernhardt	Pam Nehring	Phyllis Davis
July	Matt Olson	Joanna Olson	Sarah Stevens
August	Doug Reiners	Diane Salisbury	Melissa Reiners
September	Reid Heinekamp	Deb Heinekamp	Deb Seymour
October	Rick Hill	Debby Hill	Bonnie Miller
November	Matt Olson	Joanna Olson	Jim Bernhardt
December	Phyllis Davis	Doug Reiners	Melissa Reiners



Puzzle!

Use the word list to complete the crossword. Then fill in the numbered blanks to read God's promise to Noah — and to us.

as, and, the, day, cold, long, heat, will, earth, night, never, cease, winter, summer, harvest, endures, seedtime

“ 13 8 13 10 7 14
 2 6 5 9 6
 3 12 6 1 down 4
 6 11 across 1 across 11 down 15 ”

GENESIS 8:22, NIV

Answer: “As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease.” Genesis 8:22, NIV

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Liturgists

01/05 Myrtie Warren
 01/12 John Hallaron
 01/19 Diane Pearson
 01/26 Sandy Whiteis

Greeters

01/05 Earl Shaffer
 01/12 Jim & Connie Mitchell
 01/19 Ione Martin
 01/26 Diane Salisbury

Ushers

01/05 Doug & Melissa Reiners
 01/12 Gary & Judy Anderson
 01/19 Craig & Donna Ostrye
 01/26 Ron & Kim Henrich

January Communion Ministers

Diane Salisbury, Bonnie Miller, Angie Miller



Alter Flowers

If you would like to add a touch of beauty to the worship with a gift of flowers or donate bread for Holy Communion, 2020 Sign Up Sheets are in the narthex.



JANUARY Birthdays

01/05	Bryce Breon
01/07	Judy Anderson
01/09	Mildred Morris
01/13	Mary Leach
01/14	Nancy Brown
	Blair Diemer
	Jason Heinekamp
01/16	Kevin Peterson
01/19	Amanda Anderson
	Scott Hallaron
01/25	Robert Henrich
01/26	James Mitchell
01/31	Diane Pearson

JANUARY Anniversaries

01/14	Ron & Bonnie Miller
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If anyone's birthday or anniversary has been missed please contact the church office. Thank You

Thank you to those who have filled out the member information cards. If you haven't filled one out yet, please send any email, phone number, and address updates to the church.



If you would like to be added to the church email prayer list please contact the church office or Pastor Tom.

2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <p>EPIPHANY OF THE LORD</p>			<p>1 Office Closed</p> 	<p>2 6:30 Al-Anon</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5 7:30 UMM Breakfast 8:45 Adult Sunday School 9:00 Children's Sunday School 10:00 Worship ~ Communion</p>	<p>6 No U'Niter's</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8 6:30 Chimes 7:30 Choir</p>	<p>9 9:00 UMW Mtg 6:30 Al-Anon</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12 8:45 Adult Sunday School 9:00 Children's Sunday School 10:00 Worship</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15 6:30 Chimes 7:30 Choir</p>	<p>16 6:30 Finance Cmte Mtg 6:30 Al-Anon</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19 8:45 Adult Sunday School 10:00 Worship ~ Communion</p>	 <p>Martin Luther King Day</p>	<p>21 NewsLetter DEADLINE 6:30 Trustees Board Mtg</p>	<p>22 6:30 Chimes 7:30 Choir</p>	<p>23 6:30 Al-Anon</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26 8:45 Adult Sunday School 9:00 Children's Sunday School 10:00 Worship Coffee Hour Hosts~ Trustees</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 4:30-6:00 4th Tuesday Feast @ Nazarene Church</p>	<p>29 6:30 Chimes 7:30 Choir</p>	<p>30 10:30 Newsletter Assembly 6:30 Adminis- trative Council Mtg 6:30 Al-Anon</p>	<p>31</p>	

The United Church of Sandwich

512 E Lions Road
Sandwich, IL 60548-2147

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



THE MESSENGER — JANUARY 2020



The United Church of Sandwich

512 E Lions Road, Sandwich, IL 60548-2417

Church: (815) 786-9243

Email: ucssandwich@frontier.com

website: www.unitedchurchsandwich.org

Sunday Schedule

Worship 10:00 am

Adult Sunday School 8:45 am

Children's Sunday School 9:00 am

Church Office Hours

Monday – Friday

9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Pastor: Rev. Tom Bourke

Office Hours: Monday–Thursday, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

or by appointment

Email: tombourkejr@gmail.com

Mobile: 630-699-2474

Church Staff

Secretary: Donna Reiss

Tuesday-Friday 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Choir and Chimes Director: Kevin Duy

Organist/Pianist: Carol Larson

Ministers and Missionaries: All Members

We are passionately united to feed all people –
body, mind and spirit – to the glory of God!

Leadership Team 2020

Church Council Chair	Ken Young
Recording Secretary	Chris Bagwill
Treasurer	Linda Duy
Payroll	Pam Nehring
Financial Secretary	Pat Hallaron
Finance/Stewardship Chair	Pam Nehring
Staff/Pastor Parish Relations	
Lay Leader	Sarah Stevens
Trustee's Chair	Matt Olson
Annual Conf. Delegate	Bonnie Miller
Missions/Evangelism Chair	Phyllis Whitehead
Memorial/Endowment Chair	Carole Strock
United Methodist Women	Myrtie Warren
United Methodist Men	
Fair Stand Chair	Reid Heinekamp
Worship & Music Chair	Deb Seymour
CYM: Joint Youth Coop Rep.	Joanna Olson