

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” Jeremiah 29:11

As I think about the New Year before us, these words from Jeremiah keep coming to mind. God’s promise to the Israelites back then is the exact same promise He continues to give to us today. He has a plan for our lives individually as well as corporately, and they are plans to see us prosper and be blessed as we go into the new day into which He calls us.

So how do we come to know God’s plans for us? God gives us the answer as He goes on to say in that same passage, ***“You will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.”*** Jeremiah 29:12 The call is for us to be a people of earnest prayer daily seeking God and His will for our lives. His promise is that, when we do, we will find Him and that He will lead us into the new day.

None of us like the uncertain. We want the sure thing. While the new day before us holds for us some uncertainties, we can find both comfort and hope in that God who calls us into it promises to go with us and to see His plan for us brought to fruition if we will but trust Him.

Friends, we are a people who are called to walk by faith and not by sight. Let us look to the days before us and the promise that is there, as we look to God and trust His lead.

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January 2018 Calendar

Thursday, January 4	SPRC	7:00 pm
Saturday, January 6	Women's Emmaus Share Group	9:00 am
Sunday, January 7	Prayer Circle	9:30 am
	Sunday Morning Worship	10:30 am
	GUMY Sr.	5:00 pm
Monday, January 8	Boy Scouts Troop 71	7:00 pm
Tuesday, January 9	Lillian Faith Meeting	10:00 am
	Women's Emmaus Share Group	6:00 pm
	Cub Scouts Pack 71	7:00 pm
Wednesday, January 10	Men's Emmaus Share Group	6:30 pm
	Women's Emmaus Share Group	8:30 pm
Saturday, January 13	UM Men's Breakfast	8:30 am
	Women's Emmaus Share Group	9:00 am
	Celebration of Life for Donna Drury	2:00 pm
Sunday, January 14	Prayer Circle	9:30 am
	Choir	9:30 am
	Sunday Morning Worship	10:30 am
	VBS Meeting	2:30 pm
Monday, January 15	Leadership Team	7:00 pm
	Boy Scouts Troop 71	7:00 pm
Tuesday, January 16	DCOM	8:30 am-12:00 pm
	Women's Emmaus Share Group	6:00 pm
	Cub Scouts Pack 71	7:00 pm
Wednesday, January 17	Men's Emmaus Share Group	6:30 pm
	Women's Emmaus Share Group	8:30 pm
Saturday, January 20	Women's Emmaus Share Group	9:00 am
	Ministry Table	9:00 am-12:00 pm
Sunday, January 21	Prayer Circle	9:30 am
	Choir	9:30 am
	Sunday Morning Worship	10:30 am
	GUMY Sr.	5:00 pm
Monday, January 22	Boy Scouts Troop 71	7:00 pm
Tuesday, January 23	Women's Emmaus Share Group	6:00 pm
	SPRC	7:00 pm
	Cub Scouts Pack 71	7:00 pm
Wednesday, January 24	Men's Emmaus Share Group	6:30 pm
	Women's Emmaus Share Group	8:30 pm
Friday, January 26	Feeding His Children Prep	6:00 pm-9:00 pm
Saturday, January 27	Women's Emmaus Share Group	9:00 am
	Feeding His Children	7:00 am-2:00 pm
Sunday, January 28	Prayer Circle	9:30 am
	Choir	9:30 am
	Sunday Morning Worship	10:30 am
	GUMY Jr.	5:00 pm
Monday, January 29	Boy Scouts Troop 71	7:00 pm
Tuesday, January 30	Women's Emmaus Share Group	6:00 pm
	Cub Scouts Pack 71	7:00 pm
Wednesday, January 31	Men's Emmaus Share Group	6:30 pm
	Choir	7:30 pm
	Women's Emmaus Share Group	8:30 pm

February 2018 Calendar

Saturday, February 3	Women's Emmaus Share Group	9:00 am
Sunday, February 4	Prayer Circle	9:30 am
	Sunday Morning Worship	10:30 am
	GUMY Sr.	5:00 pm
Monday, February 5	Boy Scouts Troop 71	7:00 pm
Tuesday, February 6	Women's Emmaus Share Group	6:00 pm
	Cub Scouts Pack 71	7:00 pm
	RUMC Emmaus Gathering	7:15 pm
Wednesday, February 7	Men's Emmaus Share Group	6:30 pm
	Choir	7:30 pm
	Women's Emmaus Share Group	8:30 pm
Saturday, February 10	UM Men's Breakfast	8:30 am
	Women's Emmaus Share Group	9:00 am
Sunday, February 11	Prayer Circle	9:30 am
	Sunday Morning Worship	10:30 am
	Chris Cakes	12:00 pm
Monday, February 12	Boy Scouts Troop 71	7:00 pm
Tuesday, February 13	Lillian Faith	10:00 am
	Women's Emmaus Share Group	6:00 pm
	Cub Scouts Pack 71	7:00 pm
Wednesday, February 14	ASH WEDNESDAY	
	Men's Emmaus Share Group	6:30 pm
	Choir	7:30 pm
	Women's Emmaus Share Group	8:30 pm
Saturday, February 17	Women's Emmaus Share Group	9:00 am
Sunday, February 18	Prayer Circle	9:30 am
	Sunday Morning Worship	10:30 am
	GUMY Sr.	5:00 pm
Monday, February 19	Trustees	7:00 pm
	Boy Scouts Troop 71	7:00 pm
Tuesday, February 20	Women's Emmaus Share Group	6:00 pm
	Cub Scouts Pack 71	7:00 pm
Wednesday, February 21	Men's Emmaus Share Group	6:30 pm
	Choir	7:30 pm
	Women's Emmaus Share Group	8:30 pm
Friday, February 23	Feeding His Children Prep	6:00 pm-9:00 pm
Saturday, February 24	Women's Emmaus Share Group	9:00 am
	Feeding His Children	7:00 am-2:00 pm
	Good Works Walk for the Homeless	
Sunday, February 25	Prayer Circle	9:30 am
	Sunday Morning Worship	10:30 am
	GUMY Jr.	5:00 pm
Monday, February 26	Boy Scouts Troop 71	7:00 pm
Tuesday, February 27	Women's Emmaus Share Group	6:00 pm
	Cub Scouts Pack 71	7:00 pm
Wednesday, February 28	Men's Emmaus Share Group	6:30 pm
	Choir	7:30 pm
	Women's Emmaus Share Group	8:30 pm

Feeding His Children at Claire UMC Ministry

Our third and final year for our Feeding at Claire UMC Ministry is upon us. Our grant request for funding by the United Methodist Community Ministries was approved, pending our church's payment of apportionments. We will plan to continue feeding hungry folks at Claire UMC until the money runs out. Our December meal at Claire was canceled due to a funeral luncheon at Claire so we were not able to distribute our Christmas gift bags with cookies and toiletries to our guests, but we will do this at our January 27 meal. Thank you to our hard-working team of volunteers who prepare and serve each month!

Samaritan's Purse

OUR CHURCH did a great job of filling 62 shoeboxes with goodies, clothes, toys, supplies and LOVE for children around the world. Thank you all!

Mitten & Hat Tree

YOU all outdid yourselves COVERING our Mitten and Hat Tree with hats, gloves, mittens – some hand-made! It is a wonderful sight! We will distribute these to children at two Groveport Madison elementary schools soon – where they will be greatly appreciated! Thank you all!

Angel Tree

Our Angel Tree ministry provided gifts and Christmas stockings to 13 children in four families on December 9. This year photos were taken of the kids receiving their gifts and these photos will be forwarded to the incarcerated parent. Those photos will be treasured keepsakes for the parents! Thank you to all who helped purchase gifts, assemble stockings, wrap and deliver to the Angel Tree children.

Coming Soon . . . Chris Cakes Pancake Lunch!!

The Missions Team's annual Chris Cakes Pancake Luncheon will be Sunday, February 11 after morning worship. Prepare to 'catch' your lunch and visit with church family and friends. The Lillian-Faith Circle has graciously sponsored this year's luncheon so all donation proceeds will benefit Good Works, Inc., in Athens County. Come hungry and enjoy!

Good Works Walk for the Homeless

The annual Good Works Walk for the Homeless will be Saturday, February 24 starting at 8:30 a.m.. Plan to attend this event and raise money for Good Works, the only homeless shelter in 8 southeastern Ohio counties. You will learn a lot and contribute to a great cause!

Community News:

Adopt-A-Family:

The Center for Groveport-Madison Human Needs (CGMHN) served 339 children in 106 families during the 2017 Adopt-A-Family distribution and shopping events. THANK YOU TO ALL WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THIS GREAT EVENT!

UM Men

The beginning of the new year is a great time to reflect on the past by remembering those things that bring a smile to your face and a warm feeling to your heart. It's also time to reflect on your future. A wise man once said you can't measure your success by the numbers who listen. However, your success can be measured when those who come to listen spread that goodwill to many. The men's group last year had a very successful "Do you know" series in which we invited guest speakers from the community to our men's breakfasts to speak. Our world today, as it was in the past, is full of challenges, confusion and turmoil. It's our UM Men's Group's vision for 2018 to present/offer a different type of series focusing specifically on the issues and our perspective of "Being a man in today's world". We have invited men of our congregation to come speak at our men's breakfasts about their own personal challenges and struggles in this modern world of today

SOME OF OUR 2018 SPEAKERS INCLUDE:

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|---|-------------------|
| 1. Jason Mahr "The struggles in the workplace" | Feb. 10th |
| 2. David Kudel "Working behind bars" | March 10th |
| 3. Larry Flowers "My years as a civil servant" | April 14th |
| 4. Pastor Chip "The struggles of the modern father" | No date confirmed |
| 5. Jeff Myers "In my travels" | No date confirmed |
| 6. Mike Belek "Being a grandparent is more complicated than ever" | No date confirmed |
| 7. Brian Johnson "My years of deployment with my bible" | No date confirmed |

Please consider being part of our Groveport Men's Group in 2018. Blessing to You! Ron Lee



JANUARY/
FEBRUARY 2018



GRIEFSHARE

The GriefShare small group is a friendly, caring group of people who understands your circumstances and will walk alongside you through one of life's most difficult experiences. The grieving process is complicated and lonely but you do not have to go through it alone. GriefShare is a 13-week video seminar series that features the nation's most foremost Christian experts on grief and recovery topics as seen from a biblical perspective. The video seminars are combined with support group discussion of the materials presented during the video.

Groveport UMC will sponsor a GriefShare group commencing Thursday, February 1, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. The group is open to anyone in our community or surrounding area who has experienced the loss of a spouse, child, family member, or friend. Please share with your family, friends and co-workers. If you would like to learn more about GriefShare, check out the website at <http://www.griefshare.org/about>.

LILLIAN FAITH

Following with our regularly scheduled Meeting in February we will be having our Annual Potluck in the Fellowship Hall. It will be nice to have the chance to eat homemade food prepared by fellow Lillian Faith members. Hope everyone can come to enjoy the delicious food and fellowship.



SCHOLARSHIP FUND DONATIONS

Did you know that donations to the Viola Luellen Scholarship fund can be made at any time? These scholarships are capped at \$500.00, and are only available to members of GUMC that are in studies of ministry, nursing, or education. The scholarship was initiated by Jim Luellen in memory of his wife Viola. Additional monies were given in memory of Fanchon Greer. This was visionary on the part of Jim and needs to be remembered when we look forward to the young people in our church. Please prayerfully consider donating to this scholarship, as it is funded by the generous gifts of our congregation. Respectfully submitted by Jean Ann Hilbert



Nominations 2018

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Chair – Jeff Myers
Lay Leader – Larry Hilbert
Lay Leader – Jeff Myers
Ministry Table Chair – Larry Hilbert
Treasurer – Vicki Babbert
Trustee Chair – Gary Henkel
Finance Chair – To Be Filled
SPRC Chair – Joyce Myers
Lay Delegate—Larry Flowers
Pastor – Chip Koch

MINISTRY TABLE

Chair – Larry Hilbert
Secretary – To Be Filled
Lay Leader – Larry Hilbert
Lay Leader – Jeff Myers
Leadership Team Chair – Jeff Myers
Treasurer – Vicki Babbert
Staff Parish – Joyce Myers
Trustees – Gary Henkel
Finance – To Be Filled
Missions – Kathi Faulstich
Outreach – Steve Shirley
Children’s Ministry –Bev Koch / Susan Stauffer
Caring Team – Mary Sue Gregg / Charlene Nutter
Music Director – Terri Christensen
G.U.M.Y. Youth – Courtney Hilbert
Safe Sanctuary – Kay Carter
Camping – Jason/Brandi Mahr
Scouting – Jeff Myers
Lillian Faith – Patti Upperman
U.M. Men – Andy Tabor
Membership – Monica Hylbert
Lay Delegate – Larry/Patty Flowers
Communications – Jen Hertl
Hospitality – Mark Newman
Food Pantry – Andrew Nimely
Historian – Beth Stevenson
At Large – Paige Pickett
At Large – Jean Ann Hilbert

TRUSTEES

2018 Gary Henkel - Chair
2018 Jason Mahr
2018 Rich Holter
2018 Joyce Reihing
2019 Jim Stokes
2019 Ben Koch
2019 Barb Belek
2020 Tim Stauffer
2020 Keith Babbert
2020 Wayne Cassidy
Lay Leader – Larry Hilbert

FINANCE

Chair – To Be Filled
Chair Leadership Team – Jeff Myers
Chair Ministry Table – Larry Hilbert
Lay Leader – Larry Hilbert
Lay Leader – Jeff Myers
Treasurer – Vicki Babbert
Staff Parish – Joyce Myers
Trustees – Gary Henkel

STAFF PARISH

2018 Joyce Myers - Chair
2018 Courtney Hilbert
2018 Andrew Nimely
2018 Mike Belek
2018 Charlene Nutter
2019 Debbie Holter
2019 Bill Hylbert
2019 Jen Hertl
2020 Debbie Sommers
2020 David Kudeh
2020 Beth Stevenson
Lay Leader – Jeff Myers

STEPHENS MINISTRY

Larry Hilbert - Lead
Darleen Neal
Kay Carter
Becky Cassidy

Nominations 2018

CHILDREN'S TEAM

Co-Chair Bev Koch
Co –Chair Susan Stauffer
Steve Shirley
Paige Pickett
Kathy Faulstich
Angela Martin

CARING TEAM

Mary Sue Gregg - Lead
Charlene Nutter - Lead
Patty Flowers
Sue Arnett
Becky Cassidy

WELCOMING COMMITTEE

Patty Upperman – Chair
Larry Hilbert – Greeters
Kelly Tabor – Ushers
Bill Hylbert
Bonnie Henkel
Mary Sue Gregg
Bob Dennis

WORSHIP TEAM

Pastor Chip
Terri Christensen
Nancy Wilkerson
Larry Hilbert
Kelly Tabor
Gail Dillon
Patty Upperman
Steve Shirley
Brian Johnson
Monica Hylbert

CHRISTMAS OFFERING

Our Christmas offering this year was designated to Groveport Madison Human Needs, an organization that offers assistance to families for housing, utilities, food, medicine, and the like. We are happy to report that our Christmas offering was \$971.00. This will go a long way in helping those in need. Thank you for your gifts and for being the hands and feet of Jesus.



JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2018

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Worship God Build Disciples Change Lives

His Unfailing Presence

Another year I enter
Its history unknown;
Oh, how my feet would tremble
To tread its paths alone!
But I have heard a whisper,
I know I shall be blest;
"My presence shall go with thee,
And I will give thee rest."

What will the New Year bring me?
I may not, must not know;
Will it be love and rapture,
Or loneliness and woe?
Hush! Hush! I hear His whisper;
I surely shall be blest;
"My presence shall go with thee,
And I will give thee rest."



--Unknown Author