



MEMORIAL MESSENGER

Latest News

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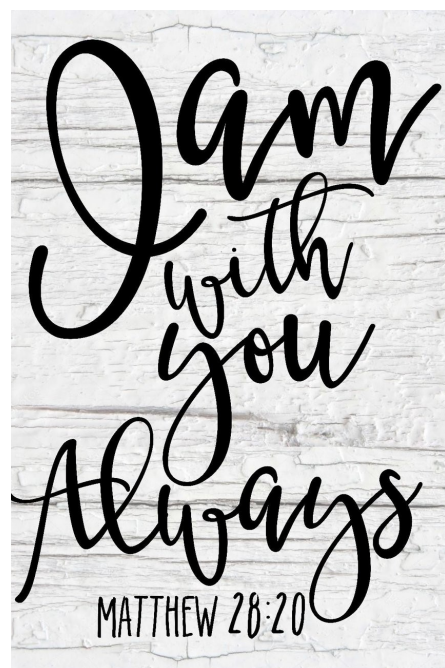
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The Food & Shelter item of the month for January is **cereal**. Please place your donation in the box by the church information table.

Please return your **pledge cards** as soon as possible so that the session may plan the budget for next year. Questions? See Mike Cole or John Beck.

The annual congregational meeting is **February 3** Immediately after worship. All reports are due by **January 13**.

The Norman Chapter of Parents Helping Parents will host its first meeting of the New Year on Thursday, January 10 at 7:00 PM at the Education Center at Norman Regional Hospital, located at 901 North Porter in Norman.



Memorial Presbyterian Church accepts **online donations** through a partnership with the Presbyterian Foundation, via the Presbyterian Mission Exchange. Look for the



"Give Now" button on our website, www.memorialpres.org, or scan the QR code here. Recurring or one-time donations may be made by credit/debit card or by direct transfer from your bank account (EFT). We will continue to accept cash and checks as well.

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Friends,

Happy New Year! Have you broken any resolutions yet? I don't really make resolutions, though I often use the new year as a time to set an intention, a direction or a focus. I'm still thinking on what this year's intention might be.

If you would like to give more time to prayer, I ran across a way for give form to our praying. This was shared by a friend who was helping his young son form a prayer he would be giving in public:

- I. Address – The prayer begins by naming the God of our worship, most often in the Person of God the Father.
- II. Acknowledgement – The quality or characteristic of God is mentioned upon which the prayer request is based.
- III. Petition – We ask for a specific thing that we need: guidance, forgiveness, faith, etc.
- IV. Aspiration – the result that we hope will come out of the granting of our petition.
- V. Pleading – the prayer is said through the mercy and merit of Jesus Christ our savior, who by his redemption and ascension is the mediator of our faith and worship.

Another way I learned long ago was the acronym ACTS:

- A—Adoration
- C—Confession
- T—Thanksgiving
- S—Supplication

However you pray is acceptable to God. Even sitting in silence and listening is prayer. Silence may even be more important than our words.

I hope this new year will bring you into a closer relationship with God. If you want to talk about it, I'm available and would be privileged to share in that conversation with you.

Grace and peace,
Tracy

Clerk's Corner

Session met on Tuesday, December 18 at 7PM at the church. The following actions were taken:

1. Session voted to receive Alice and Judd Lanning into membership by transfer of church letter from First Christian Church in Norman.
2. The date for the congregational meeting to elect new officers (for the class of 2021) was set for December 30, 2018 immediately following worship.
3. The date for the annual congregational meeting was set for February 3, 2019 immediately following worship. There will be a soup potluck.
4. The date for the ordination/installation of the new officers was set for Sunday, January 20, 2019
5. Session approved giving the church employees a bonus of an extra week's salary in December.
6. The next meeting of session will be Tuesday January 22, 2019.

Respectfully,
Joan Cole
Clerk of Session

Stewardship Update			
December 1 to December 31, 2018			
	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	2018 Budget
Pledges	\$179,990.56	\$157,500.00	\$157,000.00
Other Income	\$6,965.73	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
Total Income	\$186,956.29	\$163,500.00	\$163,500.00
Total Expenses	\$185,805.42	\$185,881.00	\$185,881.00

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

Thank you to the readers, the choirs, the ushers, the communion servers, the tiny group that adorned the sanctuary, the nursery care, the head usher, the sound booth volunteers, Lisa, Solena, Vince and Tracy for all that you did to make Advent so special at Memorial.

We are trying something new with **ushers** for the first six months of 2019. If you previously volunteered to usher, you will still be asked to usher. We also have some new ushers to work into the schedule. Wahoo! So, starting December 30, there will be a list of usher assignments on the information table across from Tracy's office. Please take one. If you see that you cannot usher on the assigned day, please switch with someone else. Names will appear in the Messenger and the bulletin as submitted to Lisa on the master list unless she knows in time to make a change.

We welcome new members to the committee as well as feed -back on what is happening in worship. It really does take a village.

Wishing you the best of the New Year!

Charlotte Lovett, chair

A big thanks to the Memorial Presbyterian Church 2018 volunteer Salvation Army Bell Ringers who rang the Red Kettle bells at Dillard's on Dec. 4. Bell ringers this year included: Carolyn Montgomery, Harold Conner, Eileen Burke, Karen Girdner, Tamara Iske, Joan Thraikill, Charlotte Lovett, Michael & Janann Yeager, Joan Cole, Lucy Lanning, Jim Rodriguez, Bart Ward, & Paul Phelps. According to an email thanks from SA, the bucket total for the day was \$233.16. Good Job everyone!



January 2019 Thoughts from Mission & Evangelism Committee

First, a huge Thank You to all for participation in the following year-end efforts:

Our Christmas Joy Offering, which goes to the PCUSA, and this year raised approximately \$357.21

Our gifts to the Women's Resource Center, which were warmly received; the mothers wrapped the gifts for their kids, and the moms' gifts were wrapped by volunteers

Our ongoing efforts to support Food and Shelter – please note that you can put your donations in our decorated box any time during the month; they are delivered to Food and Shelter throughout the month

Our CROP Walk efforts, which this year included our kids carrying the banner at the front of the Walk. This year's CROP Walk raised \$21,674 (one-fourth goes to Food and Shelter; three-fourths goes to Church World Service) and MPC donations and sponsorship provided over \$700 of that total

Thanks to JoBeth Bailey who is our new social media guru. She has posted pictures of the WRC and CROP Walk efforts on our Facebook page. Check it out!

Second, we would appreciate new members on our small but feisty committee. We meet at 6:00 pm on the second Tuesday of the month.

Thanks,

Melissa Gill, Chair

Christmas Pageant "Don't Freak Out"



M.Y GROUP NEWS
JANUARY 2019



ATTENTION ALL YOUTH IN GRADES 6-12, here is our January 2019 meeting schedule:

JANUARY 13 Julie Forthman to provide lunch

JANUARY 27 Trudy Beard to provide lunch

Please contact Joan Cole, 830-8389, if you have any questions or you would like to volunteer to bring a meal. The following dates are still available: March 10, March 24, April 7, April 28 and May 12.

January Worship Duty Schedule

Head Usher: Larry Upton

January 6

Ushers: Loreen Upton and Breanna Upton

Communion Servers: Karen and Mike Girdner, Joan and Mike Cole

Coffee: Loreen and Breanna Upton

Sound Booth: Tim Thiessen

Acolyte Assistant: Karen Girdner

Nursery Assistant: Joan Cole

Lock-up: Joan and Mike Cole

January 13

Ushers: Grace Tamukong and Rafael Ayang

Coffee: Mike Cole and Trudy Beard

Sound Booth: Karen Upton

Acolyte Assistant: Melissa Gill

Nursery Assistant: Susan Beck

Lock-up:

January 20

Ushers: Mike and Karen Girdner

Coffee: Lisa Upton and Ann Fayles

Sound Booth: Mike Cole

Acolyte Assistant: Lisa Upton

Nursery Assistant: Trudy Beard and Karen Girdner

Lock-up:

January 27

Ushers: Melissa Gill and Solange Bobga

Coffee: Linda Eckel and Gladys Jangha

Sound Booth: Will Farris

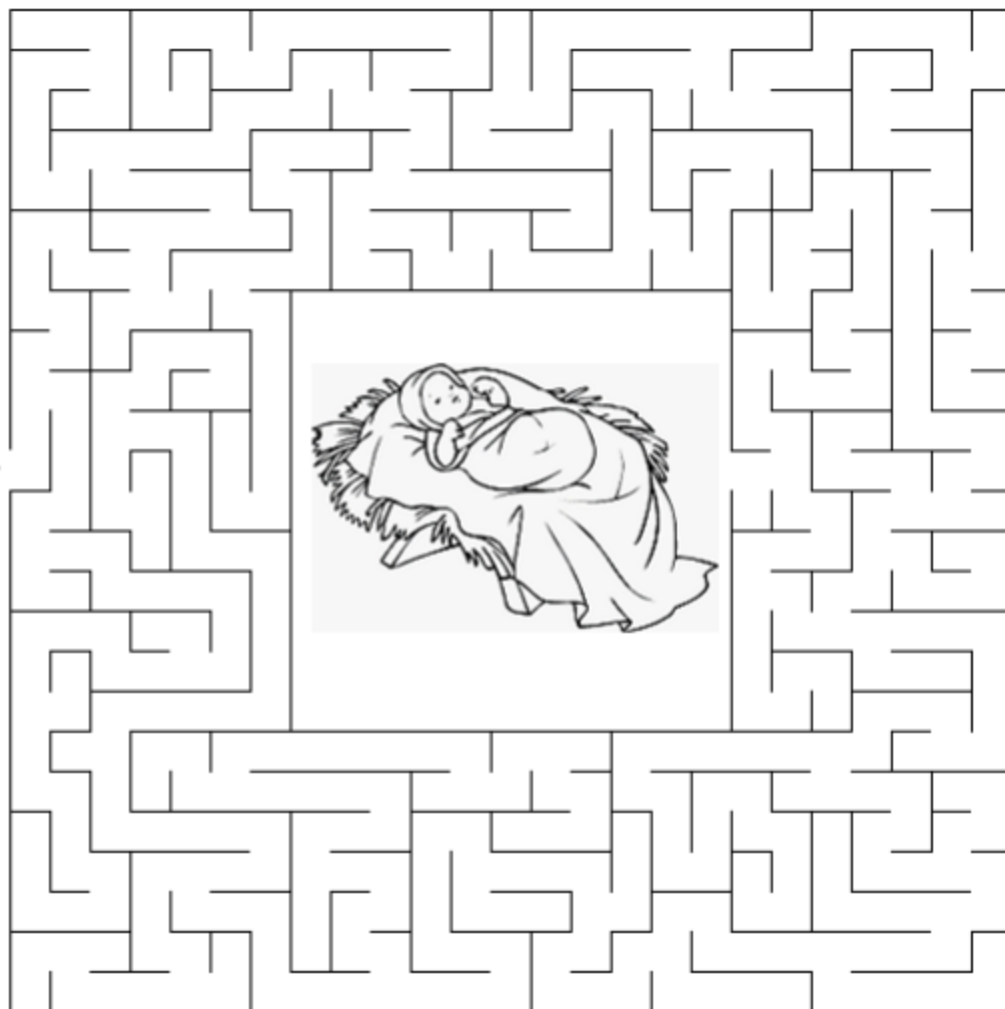
Acolyte Assistant: Joan Cole

Nursery Assistant: Donna Vint

Lock-up:

Wise Men Search for Jesus

Can you help the Wise Men find the way to the baby Jesus?



"Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him."

Matthew 2:2

Known Joys and Concerns

Those who seek healing

Lola Carroll
 Sandy Clarke
 Jim Eckel
 Laura Eckel
 Doug Forsyth
 Ann Forsyth
 Mike Girdner
 Alice Lanning
 Jayelle Martin
 Jona Thiessen
 Karen Upton
 Harry Wright
 Darrell Hinson (Karen Upton's father)
 Tracy Garland (Harry Wrights daughter)

Those who Experienced Recent Loss

Family and friends of Doris Hinson who died on December 23.

Joys

Seminary Student

Samuel McCann, Pittsburgh Theo. Seminary

We lift up in prayer the country of Cameroon and pray for the unrest our brothers and sisters are experiencing there.

In an effort to stay apprised of our on-going prayer concerns, prayer requests of those outside the MPC family will stay on the concerns list for one month. Please let the office know if there is a need to be listed longer.

January Birthdays

1	Kerri Autry
4	Cassie Eckel
9	Karen Girdner
10	Judy Burns
14	Warren Beck Devyn Upton
19	Charles Johnson
24	Kelsey Hudson Melinda Clements
26	Nancy Silman
27	Rachel (Forsyth) Klenda Ross Forsyth
28	Jim Annoh
29	Julie Forthman Jessica (Thiessen) Farris
30	Jeff Roesel
31	Ashu Abunaw

January Anniversaries

1	John & Susan Beck Joe & Jan Garlett Rob & Traci Cunningham
2	Will & Jessica Farris
17	Zack & Brook (Thrailkill) Hesse
22	Jim & Linda Eckel

January 2019

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1

2

3

4

5

6

4:00 p.m. UCC
Worship Service
12:00 p.m.
Deacons

7

7:00 P.M. Boy
Scouts

8

6:00 p.m Mission
& Evangelism
Meeting

9

3:00 p.m. Kids'
Club
5:00 p.m.
Children's Choir
6:30 p.m.
Chancel Choir

10

11

12

13

4:00 p.m. UCC
Worship Service
12:00 p.m. MY
Group

14

7:00 P.M. Boy
Scouts

15

16

3:00 p.m. Kids'
Club
5:00 p.m.
Children's Choir
6:30 p.m.
Chancel Choir

17

18

19

20

12:00 p.m.
Deacons
5:30 p.m.
Stewardship
4:00 p.m. UCC
Worship Service

21

7:00 P.M. Boy
Scouts

22

7:00 p.m Session
Meeting

23

6:30 p.m.
Chancel Choir

24

25

26

27

4:00 p.m. UCC
Worship Service
12:00 p.m. MY
Group

28

7:00 P.M. Boy
Scouts

29

30

31