



HOLIDAY HILLS UMC NEWSLINK

January 2018

PASTOR'S NOTES:



I always look forward to a New Year in the life of the church. It is hard to believe, but it is 2018.

In the life of the church, January is always an exciting period. We begin with EPIPHANY (Manifestation of the Lord) which is even more an ancient celebration among Christians. We observe the Baptism of the Lord and Christ the King Sunday! AND, this year LENT is just around the corner, beginning with ASH Wednesday Feb. 14th.

The New Year marks a time of new beginnings, a time for reflection and resolution. Have you kept your resolutions from last year? There's no better time to pause, take stock, and evaluate where you are on your personal spiritual journey. At Holiday Hills United Methodist Church our mission is "To Gather as God's people, Grow in faith, and Go into our Community as disciples of Jesus Christ." Where did you begin your journey last year? More relevant is: Where are you right now? Where do you want to go? And how are you going to get there? Becoming that; "deeply committed Christian" is simply following Jesus' instruction to "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and love your neighbor as yourself." (Luke 10:27) I have explained this often times as loving God with your head, your heart and your hands. With our heads we study God's Word, we learn and grow. With our hearts we worship, pray, listen and experience God's infinite love. And with our hands we serve God by serving others, in our church, in our community, and in our world.

Make it your resolution to take another step forward in your journey this year. A few possibilities include: Explore ways to serve the needs of our community—our local Food "Storehouse" pantry is a good place to start. Check out some of the small groups like UMM, UMW, Bible Studies, Prayer Quilters. This year we will begin more Wesley "CLASSES". Find your place to serve. All of us have gifts for service to our Lord and HIS church. Perhaps you would like to share God's love through mission's opportunities. There are many in our own community, in Arkansas and the U.S. without traveling to other countries. Make a commitment to worship each weekend, and to invite your family, friends, and neighbors.

Blessings to each of you and I look forward to seeing each of you even more this coming year!

Pastor Dan

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An Up-date—Commission on the way forward

According to the United Methodist News Service, the Commission on the Way Forward has delivered three possible models to the Council of Bishops to be considered at the specially called 2019 General Conference in St. Louis, Mo. As we address the impasse over homosexuality, ordination, and marriage. This is the way UMNS summarizes the three plans:

(1) Affirm the current *Book of Discipline* language and place a high value on accountability. The church policy book says the practice of homosexuality “is incompatible with Christian teaching” and lists officiating at a same-gender union or being a “self-avowed practicing” will guide the UMC in this critical time of our gay clergy member as chargeable offenses under church law.

(2) Remove restrictive language and place a high value on contextualization. This sketch also specifically protects the rights of those whose conscience will not allow them to perform same-gender weddings or ordain LGBTQ persons.


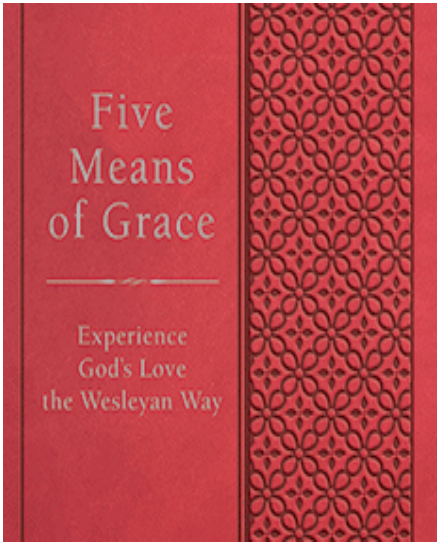
(3) Create multiple branches that have clearly defined values such as accountability, contextualization and justice. This model would maintain shared doctrine and services and one Council of Bishops.

A NE District “Town Hall” discussion for these three models will be held at FUMC Searcy on January 21st @ 2:30 pm. Please continue to pray that the Holy Spirit will guide the UMC in this critical time of church history.

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Book Recommended by Pastor Dan:
Five Means of Grace
Written by Elaine A. Heath



Natalie Bishop.....1/03
Cay Jones1/04
Nancy Pagett.....1/14
Marie Shacklett.....1/15
Charles Elder.....1/17
Carolyn Bristol.....1/27



Holiday Hills United Methodist Church Choir Cantata—Rise & Shine

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JANUARY 2018

Feb 2018 ►

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 	2 2 pm Prayer group 3 pm Choir Practice	3 8 am Prayer group 10:30 UMW 5 pm Class 6 pm Bible Study	4	5	6 9-12 Council Annual Planning Meeting
7 9:30 am Sunday School 10:50 am Worship Epiphany Sunday Baptism of the Lords Communion Sunday	8 6:30 UMW circle	9 11:30 Book Club 2 pm Prayer group 3 pm Choir Practice	10 8 am Prayer Group 1 pm Quilters 5 pm Class 6 pm Bible Study	11	12 9-12 Word press Training Conference office -LR	13 9am Kairos Breakfast St. Paul UMC Searcy
14 9:30 am Sunday School 10:50 am Worship Pot Luck	15	16 2 pm Prayer group 3 pm Choir Practice	17 8 am Prayer group 5 pm Class 6 pm Bible Study	18	19	20 8 am UMM Breakfast
21 9:30 am Sunday School 10:50 am Worship 2:30 pm Town Hall FUMC-Searcy	22	23 1 pm DCOM FUMC- Searcy 2 pm Prayer group 3 pm Choir Practice	24 8 am Prayer Group 9 am Food Pantry 1 pm Quilters 5 pm Class 6 pm Bible Study	25	26	27 1 pm DCOM Cornerstone Jonesboro
28 9:30 am Sunday School 10:50 am Worship	29 1pm DCOM FUMC Batesville 6 pm Emmaus Reunion	30 2 pm Prayer group 3 pm Choir Practice	31 8 am Prayer Group 9 am Food Pantry 5 pm Class 6 pm Bible Study			



**Happy
New Year!**