



The Wesley Message

Our Mission is to Love God and Our Neighbors

Volume 37, Number 1

01/03/2019

The Rev. Clair Sauer, Pastor

From the Pastor

A New Year Covenant

The New Year is a common time for people to develop some resolutions—to set some self-improvement goals for the coming year. Perhaps this is a practice you have adopted over the years. Or if not, you likely know someone who has.

John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, regularly marked the New Year in a different way. He would join in worship in what is called a “Covenant Renewal Service.” The heart of the service, focused on the Covenant Prayer requires persons to commit themselves to God. This is a serious, but meaningful service. Wesley reflected in his Journal, “It was, as usual, a time of remarkable blessing. It was an occasion for a variety of spiritual experiences...I do not know that ever we had a greater blessing. Afterwards many desired to return thanks, either for a sense of pardon, for full salvation, or for a fresh manifestation of his graces, healing all their backslidings.”

On Sunday, January 13, we will join together in the Covenant Renewal Service. As we step into a new year, I hope you will plan to be a part of this important service. 2019 also marks the 75th Anniversary year for Wesley Memorial UMC. Through this service, we as a church can covenant with God and one another to continue in another 75 years of faithful mission and ministry. This is a great way for our church and each of us to renew our commitment to Christ, and to lay the strongest of foundations for the coming year!

Happy New Year!
Pastor Clair

Happening in January

- ▶▶ **Pastor Clair will be out of town December 31st thru January 7th.** If you have a pastoral need or an emergency arises during this time, please call the church office and leave a voice mail. We will be checking the voice mail remotely on the days that no one is in the church office.
- ▶▶ Immediately following the worship Service on Sunday, January 6th, we ask anyone who is available to please **stay to help take down and put away the Christmas decorations in the sanctuary.**
- ▶▶ Wesley Memorial UMC has entered into an agreement with the **Kids On The Block Puppetry**, a United Way Agency, to house their offices in our basement beginning January 10th.
- ▶▶ In the process of making room for the Kids On The Block offices, by the decision of the Church Leadership Team, we are clearing out everything in the basement, including the Trophy Case with all the church league trophies from previous years. **If you have an interest in any of the trophies, which might be pertinent to you or your family, please feel free to take them.**
- ▶▶ A **new Financial Peace University class** will once again be offered here at Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church beginning on Sunday, January 13th. If you know anyone who might benefit from Dave Ramsey's proven strategies for debt reduction and financial well-being, please invite them to this class. The class will meet each Sunday afternoon at 3:00pm for 9-weeks. For more information or to get registered, visit the church website or contact Suzanne Rogers (423-595-5636).
- ▶▶ All members of the **SPRC, please note that we will have a meeting** immediately following worship on Sunday, January 13. Members of the 2019 SPR Committee are: Pam Varnell (Chair), Donie Anderson, Mary Jo McAfee, Joy Billings, Lynda Reese, David Smith, and Suzanne Burnett.

Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church

**6314 East Brainerd Road
Chattanooga, TN 37421**

Return Service Requested

Church Office Email: wmumc.chatt@gmail.com
Church Office Phone: 423-892-6446

Website: wesleymemorial-chatt.org
Pastor's Cell Phone 423-664-3300

Prayer Concerns

CURRENT CONCERNS: Floy Wang, Suzanne Burnett, The Families of Betty Arnold - Heather Walker - Gail Turner, Ben Matherly, Pam Brooks, Janice Coleman, Casey Minnick (Sister of Kelsey Shaver), Russell Pickett (Uncle of Starr Alexander), Marcia Lee, Marjorie Webb, Betty Ellington (Mother of Phil Ellington), Eduardo Mendez (Nephew of Joy Billings), Susan Lavan (Friend of Pam Varnell)

ONGOING MEDICAL CONDITIONS: Ann Anderson, Dot & Gene Arnold, Deane Barker, Sarah Porter Bigelow (Friend of Joy Billings), Don Bowers (Father of D. J. {Valorie} Bowers), Betty Brickman, Steve Brothers, Pete Bryant, Malinda Cawthorne (Cousin of Brenda Fields) Steve & Susan Cox (Uncle & Aunt of Pastor Clair), Margaret Ellington, Inez Ernst, Sara Feely, Jeanette Fults, Hazel Garner, Katie Grigsby (Niece of Stephen Walker), Will Hagaman (Nephew of Debbie Hackney), Gail Hathaway (Sister of Joy Billings), Patsy Herren (Daughter of Steve Brothers), Chris Holder (Brother-in-law of Jackie Ernst), Freda C. Johnson (Sister-in-law of Bonnie Colquitt), Eleanor Jones, Joyce (Friend of Ken Levi), Christopher Ledford (Friend of Rick Mansfield), Mike Lynn (Friend of Pam Brooks), Kathy Mansfield, Mike McAfee, Robin & David Minnick (Parents of Kelsey Shaver), Chuck Poole (Friend of Hendrixsons), Marcia Rehman, Floy Strickland, Paul Strickland, Fred Thomas (Friend of Pam Brooks), Barbara Uren, J. Dan Weeks (Friend of Pam Varnell)

MILITARY: MC/MM Scott Gamble – US Navy (Goose Creek, SC)

ASSISTED LIVING and NURSING HOMES: Betty Brown – Standifer Place (Room 321), Joyce Durham – Elmcroft of Shallowford Road (Mother of Starr Alexander), Dorothy Orr- Lifecare of Collegedale (Mother of Sue Steffner), Becky Teague–Southern Oaks (Room 210)

**Attendance & Offerings for
December 2018**

OFFERINGS (For Month of December) \$ 26,273.49

Sunday School (Average) 28
Morning Worship (Average) 53



Birthdays

- 05 Sue Steffner
- 08 Pam Varnell
- 11 Jan Wheeler
- 18 Spence Burnett
- 26 Nancy Kizziah-Bryant
- 27 Helen Hendrixson
- 29 David Smith
- 30 Kathy Andrews
- Phil Ellington

**IN MINISTRY FOR THE MONTH OF
January 2019**

USHERS/GREETERS	Eric Burnett & Harold Hendrixson
LAY LEADER:	Rick Mansfield
PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP:	01/06 Connie & Naomi Hay
	01/13 David Smith
	01/20 Tom Steffner
	01/27 Jerri & CD Hilliard
ALTAR GUILD:	Suzanne Burnett & Marcie Wooten
ALTAR FLOWERS:	The Church
AUDIO-VIDEO:	Dan Coleman & Kip Smith

