



# The Messenger

Mogadore United  
Methodist Church

January 2019

## Notes from the Pastor

By the time you read this, Christmas day will have passed; we will even be in the new year of 2019. For many people, they might be asking where did 2018 go, and for others 2018 could not end soon enough, hoping for a better year in 2019.

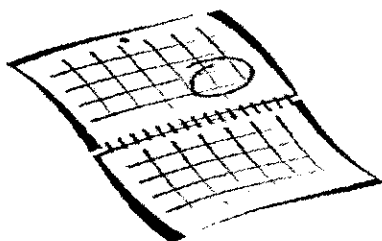
I think of this tension between what has happened and what is to come in our own lives. It is a time to look back on 2018 and at the same time look into 2019. When the new year comes, I think of the Magi who came to visit Jesus after his birth, and what was revealed to them. In the birth of this baby, was the hope of the world, the hope of new things and life to come.

However, the Magi had been waiting and traveling to see Jesus and after months of traveling they get to Jesus. I always wonder what they might have been thinking as they made their journey. Maybe it was one of excitement, maybe fear, maybe exhaustion, maybe tension or maybe caution as to what they were to find. Maybe in our own lives and our journey in life with God our journey has been like the Magi, a journey that we think is unknown and/or unclear. At times, wanting something new to happen, some insight, or revelation in our lives. This revelation is what starts in Advent, this is what we are waiting for, that something new is going to come and in Epiphany this is made known, it is revealed. What is revealed is God's grace and mercy and God's love for us; that and that God would come into this world as a baby and dwell with us.

This is the hope I see as the new year comes, that we are constantly being revealed to the unknown in our lives and the life of God. God is constantly revealing to us who God is and God's love for us. May we take that revelation in our own lives and share that with others into the new year.

Grace and Peace,  
Pastor Eric

Starting Thursday, January, 9 come by the Wildcat Café for coffee and/or breakfast, (on me). I will be there on Thursdays starting at 9 a.m. for a couple hours. Drop by to chat, pray and/or eat.



Pastor Eric's Schedule in January:

Tuesday, January 8, 2019: Teaching at Methodist Theological Seminary.

Saturday January 26: Day of Leadership training at Greensburg UMC.

## CHURCH DIRECTORY COMMITTEE NEEDS MEMBERS!!!!



It's been over 5 years since our last directory and we also have a new pastor, so it's been determined a temporary committee be formed in 2019 to assist the company we choose to create a beautiful new directory.

If you are able to help with this project in any way, please let Kelly Rick know or check the box on the back of the attendance slip. We need people with a variety of skills: artistic eye, computer skills, good on the phone, knowledgeable about our members, detail oriented, and to assist on photo days. The more people on the committee the easier and more fun the work will be.

We hope you will consider joining this temporary but important committee.

Each month on the final Sunday of the month we receive a "Loose Coin Offering" to support Open M, a mission of the United Methodist Church reaching out to people in need in Akron with healing, education, and food. Their mission is feeding body, soul, and mind. We are among local United Methodist "partner churches" who pledge regular support of their mission and ministry throughout the year. Our next offering will be gathered **Sunday, January 27**. Baskets for your offering will be available as you leave the sanctuary.

**Last year \$950 was collected for Open M!**

## NEED A TROPICAL GET-AWAY THIS JANUARY???

Well, the best In-Reach can do is invite everyone to come with us on our annual trip to see The University of Akron Steel Drum Band.

Where: Akron Civic Theater

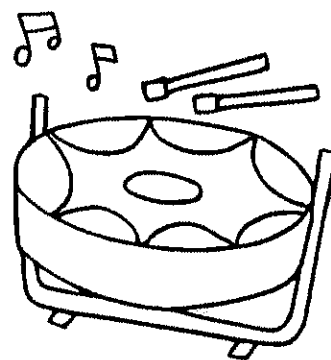
When: Sunday, January, 27 at 2:30 p.m.

Cost: at the door \$12.00 for adults. Children 5 – 12 yrs. are \$7.00.

Children younger than 5 yrs. are free

Why: Because it's tons of fun and educational

Who: Appropriate for all ages



[www.thecolor.com](http://www.thecolor.com)

We will meet at the church at 1:30 p.m. if you'd like to carpool. And as we always do when Methodists gather together we will get something to eat after the concert. If you know ahead you are planning to attend, please let Kelly Rick know for a dinner head count. But if you are the last-minute type we don't need the final count until worship service that day.

## *MUMC in Mission: Sharing Christ's love*

\**The Mitten Tree* will be in the sanctuary until January 6 to collect hats, gloves, mittens, scarves, and socks for distribution to needy children, to be shared with *Good Neighbors* and nearby schools.

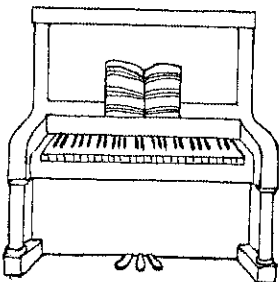
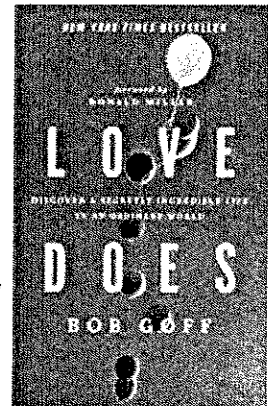
\***Remember Good Neighbors.** Food and household items like paper-goods and cleaners are always needed. Clothing and coats in good condition are also needed, especially in these winter months. Small donations add up to big help.

\* **Mountain of Food:** Friday, January 18 is the next Open M monthly food distribution. Meet at the church at 7:30 a.m. to carpool.

Thanks to all who contributed to the **Open M Christmas food drive**, helping to fill hundreds of boxes of badly needed food. Thanks also to those participating in the **Adopt-a-Family program** through the schools. Your kindness, careful shopping, beautiful wrapping, and generous hearts brought food and presents to 16 people who would have otherwise had very little for the holiday season. Warm clothes, blankets, sporting equipment, games, and toys will provide comfort and happiness for months and years ahead. You have truly blessed these people.


## Bible Study Starts January 23

*Love Does* by Bob Goff, is a five-week DVD study that will look at what happens when love does. In *Love Does*, Goff reveals that love is not only just feelings or thoughts, but also action. In this action our lives and the lives of others are transformed. Group participants get a both a *Love Does* book and study guide. Cost of the materials are \$6.50. Please sign up for either the morning session at 10:30 a.m. or the 7 p.m. evening class.



Anyone interested in a **FREE** piano, the one in the choir room will be available the first of January. Please speak to one of the trustees. If there is no interest the piano will be hauled away and disposed of by the piano company.

We are looking for volunteers to work with the Children's ministry on Sunday mornings to help with Sunday School and activities. Please see Michelle Acord for more details.

I teach  
**Sunday School**  
 what's your  
 **superpower?**

## Serving Us in January

### Worship Leaders

January 6 Doug Straight  
 January 13 Kathy Lang  
 January 20 Don Whitmer  
 January 27 Barry Rudy

### Altar Flowers

January 6 TBD  
 January 13 Michele Acord  
 January 20 TBD  
 January 27 TBD

### Greeters

Chuck & Kathy Lang

### Ushers

Hazel Dunderdale, Fred Slocum and JoAnn Wolonsky

### Hospitality Room

January 6 Russ & Joyce Hull  
 January 13 David & Sonia Stockett  
 January 20 Carol Groh  
 January 27 Kathy Lang

## In-Reach Needs Your Help!

We need your support in filling dates for the Hospitality Room for 2019. **The first open date is February 3.** Please stop by the bulletin board and sign up for a Sunday or speak with Kelly Rick and she'll fill in your name.



The season after Epiphany this year will be divided into two complementary series designed to equip congregations to “see all the people.” The first series, Greater Gifts, focuses upon lifting up the gifts in the community and strategically acting together as one body with many interconnected parts. This body, then, works as a cohesive unit to reach out beyond the walls of the church and bring people to know and receive the love of God.

### PART I: GREATER GIFTS

**Week 1: Baptism of the Lord      January 13      You Are Beloved**  
 Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

**Week 2: Second Sunday after the Epiphany      January 20      Gifted for Others**  
 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

**Week 3: Third Sunday after the Epiphany      January 27      Being Needy**  
 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

**Week 4: Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany      February 3**  
 1 Corinthians 13:1-13



## UMW NEWS FOR JANUARY

Greetings and Happy New Year! I hope you are well rested from the hustle and bustle of the Christmas season and are ready for the new year. Before I can tell you what's happening in 2019, I have to finish up some business from 2018. We had another joyous progressive dinner and I want to thank all who helped with this annual event so we could enjoy one another's fellowship and eat, eat, eat! Thanks to all the ladies who prepared and served the food and cleaned up afterwards. The menu included appetizers, salads, an entrée, desserts, and as usual, it was delicious! A big thanks also to the ladies who transformed Fellowship Hall into a warm, cozy home away from home. It truly was a memorable evening.

At our November meeting we voted to disperse the funds that we had raised during the past year. Our money comes mainly from pledges and from serving Lions Dinners. We will be donating \$1,950.00 to local charities thanks to your generosity of time and pledges. A complete list of who received this money will be published in our program book which will be out this month. Part of the funds, \$750.00, was used to purchase gifts for the Open M program, "For the Love of Children." Thanks to Judy Daniels, Patricia Everly, Joyce Hull and JoAnn Wolonsky for shopping for the gifts. We sure miss Pat Stefan who always loved to shop for the children along with all the other jobs she did as a dedicated member of UMW. Gifts of socks and underwear were also provided to Good Neighbors, all purchased from the pennies (\$127.00) that were collected at our monthly meetings. Thanks to all the Francis family members for counting those pennies!

As we begin the new year, we are happy to announce that we have a few new officers. Our officers were installed at the November meeting by the nominating team of Judy Daniels and Fran McClary. JoAnn Wolonsky will be stepping down as co- vice president and we give her big Thank You for serving in that position for many years! Taking over to assist Carol Groh, our other co VP, will be Kelly Rick and Sonia Stockett. Yes, we already gave them the business for needing two women to replace JoAnn! Our new Program Resources Chairperson will be Cheryl Rinehart. The Mission Team looks forward to working with its newest members.

**MIRIAM** – is hibernating this month! No meeting.

**NAOMI** – will meet on January 21 at 6:00 p.m. Hostess Carol Groh.

**REBECCA** – will be going out for dinner and a movie on January 9.

Our women will be cooking for and serving the Lions this month on January 9 and 23. There is always a need for helpers. Please call Joyce Calderwood to volunteer.

The UMW unit meeting will be held on January 22 at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. This will be our salad supper, so please bring your table service and a salad or dessert to share. Hostess, Joyce Calderwood, will prepare the beverages and our treasurer, Michele Acord, will present our pledge service.

As you can see, it takes many helpers to accomplish all we do. If you are not a part of UMW, I hope you will consider joining us in 2019. We are a busy group, focused on mission, and also a very caring group, supporting one another.

Joyce Hull

## Treasurer's Report

Balance in the General Fund as of January 1, 2018		\$65,367.96
January Offerings	20,774.22	
January Disbursements	15,284.64	\$5,489.58
February Offerings	11,670.19	
February Disbursements	12,080.32	(-410.13)
March Offerings	15,685.41	
March Disbursements	12,985.31	2,700.10
April Offerings	16,576.50	
March Disbursements	18,523.30	(-1,946.80)
May Offerings	23,832.00	
May Disbursements	48,487.63	(-24,655.63)
June Offerings	13,685.45	
June Disbursements	17,772.31	(-4,086.86)
July Offerings	15,352.00	
July Disbursements	15,854.31	(-502.31)
August Offerings	12,659.88	
August Disbursements	25,583.30	(-12,923.42)
September Offerings	19,744.41	
September Disbursements	13,386.73	6,357.68
October Offerings	11,749.00	
October Disbursements	33,213.35	(-21,464.35)
November Offerings	16,514.00	
November Disbursements	13,749.40	2,764.60
Ending Balance on November 30, 2018		<b>\$16,690.42</b>

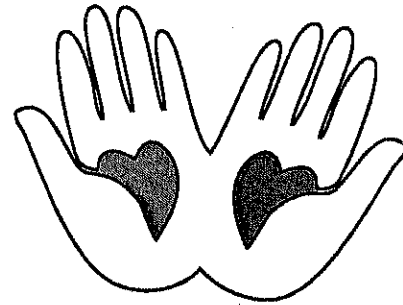
Our November offerings of \$16,514.00 were above normal, and the November disbursements of \$13,749.40 were about normal. No further work is scheduled for the bell tower until the spring of 2019, so until then, none of our disbursements should reflect church building repair expenses.

*— Barry Rudy, Treasurer*

## InReach Helping Hands

As a reminder, the InReach Committee (chaired by Kelly Rick) has come up with a list of individuals to volunteer their help to you, such as picking up prescriptions, grocery shopping, doctor appointments, etc. Please call anyone on the following list when you have any needs:

Michele Acord: (330) 628-9577 (Cell: 330-607-4387)  
 Judy Daniels: (330) 604-7337  
 Russ Hull: (330) 628-1552  
 Tom McClary: (330) 628-4265  
 John Sawicki: (330) 699-5902 (Cell: 330-715-2151)  
 Bette Sawicki: (330) 699-5902 (Cell: 330-575-4877)  
 Harry Smith: (330) 794-9032  
 Forest Thorn: (330) 628-1894  
 JoAnn Wolonsky: (330) 628-1540 (Cell: 330-400-1438)



## January Birthdays

January 2 Elaine Swartz  
 January 12 Carmen Kluth  
 January 18 Dorothy Pollock  
 January 19 Jan Ramsey  
 January 21 Lynn Straight  
 Ariana Crockett  
 January 31 Michele Straight  
 Karen Mullett  
 Finn Gaadt



*January Anniversary*  
 January 21 Richard & Sue Noga

### Church & Parsonage Repair Project

To-date expenditures: \$67,375.00

To-date offering receipts: \$21,153

## Youth Group News

2019 is here! A whole new year filled with new experiences and great opportunities is upon us, and I want to let you all know about a few of those coming up in the near future. Mark these on your calendars so you don't miss out!

First, Youth Group will be on January 6 and January 27. Both gatherings will be at their normal time, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., at their normal spot, the Youth Room downstairs by the Fellowship Hall. Join us for fun, fellowship, and God's message. Friends are always welcome! Also, we are always looking for adult volunteers/ leaders to come spend time with us during Youth Group, so if you are interested in doing that, please contact me.

Next, our Canal District Youth Council is hosting their annual Youth YMCA Overnighter on Friday, January, 18. Our Youth will join other youth groups from our cluster of Canal District UMC churches in Barberton for worship and a night of games, movies, and sports at the Barberton YMCA. More details to come in the near future, so be on the lookout for my announcements, fliers, and social media posts regarding this event. Our kids look forward to this event every year, and it is a blast! Friends are welcome! Kids, be sure to RSVP with Marie and I if you are interested in going. We are also looking for adult leaders/chaperones, for anyone interested in pulling an all-nighter with our awesome group. If you would like to join us, please contact either Marie or me. Hope to see you there!

There will be more coming up for our young people in the weeks and months to follow, so be on the lookout for the announcements and updates on what our youth are up to. As always, if you have any questions, comments, and concerns, feel free to contact me via my cell, my email, or visit me during my church office hours (Monday nights, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. unless otherwise specified)

I can't wait to see what God has in store for us in 2019, and I hope you all will be a part of this journey with us! See you in church!

Peace,

Caleb Lipocky, Youth Ministry Leader

Email: [mogadoreumcyouth@att.net](mailto:mogadoreumcyouth@att.net)

Cell: (260)-557-2237



## Canal District Leadership Training Event

Saturday, January 26, 2019 9 a.m. to Noon  
Greensburg United Methodist Church  
2161 Greensburg Rd, North Canton, OH 4472

### Workshop # 1: Rule of Christ

Intended for the entire Staff/Pastor Parish Relations Committee. A majority will need to be present to consider the church having completed the training. Smaller churches may extend the invitation to other leaders and staff from the church.

Wondering how to address conflict and miscommunication in your church with more ease and less struggle? The Rule of Christ is a training that connects Jesus' teaching from Matthew 18 to the life and relationships, in particular communication and conflict mediation, in our local churches. It is a proven system, with a solid Biblical foundation. Bishop Malone recently said, *"The overall health of the church, and the overall vitality and effectiveness of ministry, largely depends on how pastors and churches handle conflict, disagreements and relationships,"* which is why our Bishop has made the ROC training a requirement for all congregations in our connection over the next quadrennium. Incorporating dedicated prayer, clear interactions and accountable relationships, this model of church communication not only lessens the severity of conflicts, but also increases the flow of thoughtful, positive communication in the church.

Instructor: Rev. Bob Mitchell, Canal District, Chapel of the Cross UMC. Bob has served in conflict mediation in our connection and helped lead the 2018 ROC Training Event for our conference. Pre-registration is required. Questions, contact Bob at 419-606-8516, or email him at [pastorbob@sssnet.com](mailto:pastorbob@sssnet.com).

### Workshop # 2: Accountable Leadership and the Single Board Model:

The Single Board Model is a way to streamline leadership within your church that will empower your membership to serve more fully and accomplish it's mission. This workshop will live you the tools you need to move away from a committee-heavy structure to one that frees your church to actually do ministry and not just talk about it.

**Workshop Leader: Rev. Jeffrey R. Croft, Canal District, Green Valley UMC.**

### Workshop #3: Local Church Trustees

A conversation touching on legal matters, parsonage/church building maintenance and capital improvements, trustee responsibilities, and a year in the life of the trustees. Please feel free to bring specific questions to address with the group.

**Workshop Leader: Rev. Ed Peterson, Canal District, district superintendent**

### Workshop #4: Building our Competency for Relationship Building: How to be a Bold and Courageous Leader in Reaching Newer, Younger, and more Diverse People

Building relationships should be second nature for Christians, but it can be difficult especially when differences exist – political, racial, socioeconomic, or generational. Why are differences important? How do differences make a difference. Come learn how to make people feel valued and engaged and leave with tips on building your own and church's cultural competency.

**Workshop Leader: Mr. Will Jones, Director of Multicultural Vitality, Council on Ministries, East Ohio Conference of The United Methodist Church**

**Registration Information: Register individually or by church.**

**Cost: \$10 per church - 4 or more people attending**  
**\$5 per church - less than 4 people attending**

# January 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	4	5
6 Epiphany Communion 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Youth Group	7 7 p.m. Cub Scouts	8 Pastor Eric teaching at MTSO 7 p.m. Trustees	9 Rebecca Circle — dinner and movie	10 7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	11	12
13	14 7 p.m. Executive Committee 7 p.m. Cub Scouts	15	16	17 7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	18 7:30 a.m. Meet at church to travel to Open M Mountain of Food Canal District Youth Overnighter	19
20 Human Relations Day Special Offering	21 6 p.m. Naomi Circle 7 p.m. Cub Scouts NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	22 6:30 p.m. UMW Salad Supper	23 10:30 a.m. Bible Study 7 p.m. Bible Study	24 7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	25	26 9 a.m. to noon Canal District Leadership Training at Greensburg UMC
27 Loose Coin Offering for Open M 2:30 p.m. Steel Drum Concert 6:30 p.m. Youth Group	28 7 p.m. Cub Scouts	29	30 10:30 a.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Advent Study	31 7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal		

**Church Staff:**

Pastor: Rev. Eric Kluth  
Church: (330) 628-1232  
Parsonage: (234) 813-9040  
Pastor's Cell: (216) 785-6798

Youth Ministries Leader: Caleb Lipocky  
Email: [mogadoreumcyouth@att.net](mailto:mogadoreumcyouth@att.net)  
Cell: (260) 557-2237

Accompanist: Fran Snyder  
Choir Director: Clay East  
Custodian: David Smith  
Secretary: Joyce Selzer

**Sunday Hours:**

Adult Sunday School @ 9 a.m.  
(September through May)  
Children's Sunday School @ 9:15 a.m.  
(September through May)  
Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.

**Office Hours:**

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Non Profit Organization  
Permit #1  
PAID  
Mogadore OH 44260

«First\_Name» «Last\_Name»  
«Location»  
«Address»  
«City» «State» «zip»

Mogadore United Methodist Church  
3828 Mogadore Road, Mogadore, OH 44260  
(330) 628-1232 Email: [mogadoreumc@att.net](mailto:mogadoreumc@att.net)  
Website: [www.mogadoreumc.org](http://www.mogadoreumc.org)  
Find us on FaceBook!

## We Invite You

- to join together in worship, outreach, fellowship, and spiritual growth ...
- to strive together to follow the example of Jesus Christ ...
- to grow together to demonstrate Christ's love and service to others.