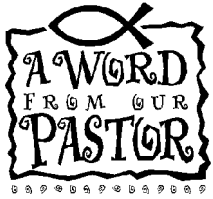


# THE MESSENGER

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MARCH, 2019



The Called Session of the United Methodist General Conference is meeting, February 23-26. It has not started as I write and so I cannot offer any update here.

There are three primary recommendations before the Conference. The Modified Traditional Plan has 19 petitions and the main points are that we would maintain the current standards, forbidding the ordination of practicing homosexuals and not conducting same gender weddings, but this plan adds requirements that all Conferences and pastors must obey these rules or form their own self-governing Methodist denomination. Another proposal, The One Church Plan has 17 petitions and would remove these rules in churches that wished more freedom, basically dividing the church into Conferences where there would be different standards for ordination and marriage. Some Conferences might wish to remove the restrictions, but not require pastors or churches to participate in same sex unions. In other Conferences, the current standards would be kept. The Connectional Conference Plan has 14 petitions and is a composite where we would organize around one of the three positions and still be in the same denomination, but traditionalists wouldn't be asked to support Conferences where they disagreed with practices in those Conferences or vice versa.

I don't know what will be decided! It is possible that there will be no action or some type of substitute motion that isn't represented by the ones I described. I read this morning there are several petitions around something called the Simple Plan, but I don't know yet what that is.

This subject is one that we as a congregation and individuals will have to work through and see if we can live with one another in a denomination that may look different from it has ever before. Please keep praying, even after the end of General Conference on February 26<sup>th</sup>. Also remember that any action by the General Conference will not take effect until January, 2020.

Keep praying.

Pastor Don



The Finance Committee would like to update our members on our church budget and how we performed financially in 2018. For 2018, our total church budget was \$451,743.00. We only received \$420,223.33 in offering and gifts, but our expenses for 2018 were \$420,305.78. Although we were able to meet all local expenses, we were unable to pay all of our Conference Apportionments. We were at 76.27% or about \$10,000 short of reaching our 100% goal. Our total budget for 2019, is \$458,655.00, so we will need your continued and increased support to reach our goal of paying all local expenses and paying 100% of our Apportionments. In order to do this, we need \$38,221 per month or \$8,820 per week! It is important that as United Methodist's, we support the work of the Church outside of our community and throughout the world.



**ATTENTION WOMEN:** Please mark your calendars for the following dates:

- March 4, 5:45 p.m. - Executive Committee
- March 4, 7:00 p.m. - Esther Circle
- March 13, 1:30 p.m. - Ruth Circle
- March 21, 1:30 p.m. - Lydia Circle
- March 23, 9:30 a.m. - Spiritual Day Apart/ Anniversary Party - First UMC, Port St. Lucie

The Giving Tree for March is the Days for Girls Project. Volunteers are sewing feminine hygiene kits for women and girls where the disposable products we take for granted are not available. This international project has provided more than a million kits to women and girls around the world. The following items are needed for these kits:



- Hotel-size soaps
- Wash cloths (Wal-Mart has bundles of 18 - select bundles with the most dark colors; minimal white)
- Girls Cotton Briefs - Sizes 8, 10, 12, 14, 16 (Colors or prints)
- Ladies Cotton Briefs - Sizes 5, 6, 7, 8 (Colors or prints)
- One gallon size Ziploc brand bags
- Good quality 100% cotton flannel (Any size pieces larger than 12"x12")
- Quilter's quality 100% cotton fabric (Any size pieces larger than 12"x12")
- 100% Polyester Thread (Dark colors)
- Grosgrain Ribbon (1/2" or 5/8" wide at least 2 1/2 yards in length)
- Cash to buy other supplies (Give to Lonnie Kirsch or put in offering plate in a sealed envelope clearly marked "Days for Girls")



**PORK DINNER**  
 Sponsored by the Youth  
 Friday, March 22  
 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.  
 (Dine-in or Take-out)  
 4:30-6:30 p.m.  
 (Dine-in or Take-out)

**Donation: \$10.00**

**FROM PARISH NURSE DIANA SAUM, RN: Preventing Falls (Part 1)** While most falls don't cause serious injuries, many do. Falling can set an older adult (over 60 years old) on a downward spiral that results in constant pain, loss of independence, increasing frailty and early mortality. Recommendations: (1) Get plenty of exercise. Exercise boosts muscle strength and bone density as you age. Federal exercise recommendation is at least 150 minutes per week of moderate-intensity aerobic activity (such as brisk walking) or 75 minutes of vigorous aerobic exercise (such as jogging). Also, engage in muscle-strengthening exercise two or more days per week. Aim to build your fitness up gradually, especially if you haven't been really active. As always, check with your physician about how much physical activity is safe for you. (2) Boost your balance. Several studies have shown that "tai chi", a Chinese martial art can reduce the risk of injurious falls. Keep in mind any exercise that strengthens your core improves your balance.



(To be continued)



**REMEMBER TO TURN YOUR CLOCKS AHEAD ONE HOUR ON SATURDAY NIGHT, MARCH 9.**



- 3<sup>rd</sup> - Merle Bass, Don Minor
- 4<sup>th</sup> - Debbie Krum
- 5<sup>th</sup> - Donna Tenniswood, D.J. Stevens, Ann Thigpen
- 7<sup>th</sup> - M/M Simon VanBeek, Anna Lou Wilson

- 8<sup>th</sup> - Lillian Doane, Nora Ragamat, Nicholas Flood
- 9<sup>th</sup> - Doris Entry, Chris Straight
- 11<sup>th</sup> - Angela Raulerson
- 15<sup>th</sup> - Kenneth Tyson
- 16<sup>th</sup> - M/M Bill Chaffee
- 19<sup>th</sup> - M/M George Clement
- 20<sup>th</sup> - M/M Tom Yackamouih, Howard Harrison
- 21<sup>st</sup> - Karen Smith, Jane Juday
- 24<sup>th</sup> - Cathie Carpenter, Kathy Boswell, Carroll Head, Naomi Harris
- 25<sup>th</sup> - Kent Emley, M/M Kenneth Tyson, Joy Hanna
- 26<sup>th</sup> - Joy Burnham, George Jackson
- 27<sup>th</sup> - Ken Keller, Cristian Suarez
- 28<sup>th</sup> - Betty Stinnett, Kathryn Murphy, M/M Richard Kersey
- 29<sup>th</sup> - Cody Walker
- 30<sup>th</sup> - Karter Keller, Evan Keller
- 31<sup>st</sup> - Rick Gammill

If your birthday or anniversary is incorrect or has been omitted, please call the Church Office.



# Puzzle!

Find and circle these words associated with the Lenten journey to the cross.

colt	denial	kiss	repent
confess	donkey	lots	silver
cross	forsaken	palms	sins
crown	Gethsemane	penance	suffer
crucifixion	Golgotha	Pilate	thorns
death	hosanna	prayer	vigil

E N A M E S H T E G R L W Y  
 C L E U X B M T H B U C W B  
 N R I K Y P A T E T I Y X Y  
 A V J G A L B R E Y A R P B  
 N G N L I S N L A I N E D X  
 E W M P R V R D H B N R D F  
 P S O G O L G O T H A B S C  
 D L N R O C O N F E S S I K  
 O T H T C P E K W U O U N D  
 M N S H N P W E D R H F S K  
 U N F O E T K Y C S G F O E  
 H E C R E V L I S W Q E C M  
 H V H N C X S O C C J R L O  
 F Q E S U D S H C A A Y M C  
 C R U C I F I X I O N S R V