

***From My Heart to Yours.... Pastor Terry***

**A Word of Thanks**

This week the curtain falls on another church year. As we celebrate Christ the King Sunday we end one year and begin another new year with Advent. This is a time to look back and look forward. Do we look back in regret and look forward in fear? Or do we look back to gain wisdom and look forward in hope? It is all a matter of perspective.

It is only fitting that the church end its year by announcing the Kingdom of God and the Lordship of Christ precisely in the midst of a world where God's kingdom seems so far away. But that is our witness- counter to what the culture sees, there is a grace filled, crucified and risen, forgiving, spirit transforming Lord whose reign is both here and yet coming. It is all around us and yet still not fully present. It breaks in all the time and yet we await its fullness. And it's message is: God reigns!

So, I want to offer a word of thanks... to all who took a risk this year, tried something new and weren't discouraged, even if it didn't work- thank you! And to all who supported new ministries, even though they brought with them a little chaos and some concern over shared space- thank you! And to all who welcomed the stranger into our house, even though some of those relationships were unfamiliar and uncomfortable- thank you! And to all who cared for each other in those difficult times when there are no words- thank you! And for all took a chance on us and joined this fellowship of friends offering their gifts and talents to become a part of this church family- thank you!

And now what can we hope for in the future? I don't know what the future will hold for us. All I know is that we can trust God with our future just like we have trusted God with our past.

One word of advice, however, given by Heather Lende who writes obituaries in a small town in Alaska: Find the good! In our future may we intentionally try to find the good in people and situations, and that practice, and it is a spiritual practice, will make our lives more meaningful. Our Lord saw the good in us and that is why "The Word became flesh and lived among us." (John 1:14) God is with us. That is the message of this season of hope. God is with us, so we can find the good in this world and in it's people. In this new year, find the good!



December 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p>1 Children's drama practice begins 10:00</p> <p>Mike Letterman Buddy Parton</p> 	<p>2</p> <p>Jackie Rieser</p> 	<p>3</p>	<p>4 11:00 Bible Study 12n- Pop up Market 6:30pm Soup Supper, Decorate &amp; short film Pick up Angel gifts Ann Edison</p>	<p>5 8 am Men's Breakfast Giving Spoon Meal 4-6pm Ann Edison</p> 	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8 Coffee Hour Christmas Cantata Elders Christmas Party at Hanna's 4pm</p>	<p>9 Frela Beck Steve Griffith</p> 	<p>10 Katherine Dockery</p> 	<p>11 11:00 Bible Study</p>	<p>12 8 am Men's Breakfast 12:00 PW Lunch Jessie Gryers house Giving Spoon meal 4-6pm</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15 Church Choir Party At Beth Brannon's house after worship</p>	<p>16 Jean Douthit</p> 	<p>17 Greg &amp; Jeannie Salyer (A)</p>	<p>18 11:00 Bible Study 6:30 pm Christmas Drama &amp; Fellowship Supper Bring Angel Gifts</p>	<p>19 8 am Men's Breakfast Giving Spoon Meal 4-6pm William McCall</p> 	<p>20 Mary Lawson Dockery</p> 	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p>	<p>23 Office Closed Madeleine Monnat</p> 	<p>24 Office Closed 7 pm Moravian Love Feast &amp; Candlelight Service</p>	<p>25 Office Closed</p>	<p>26 Office Closed Howard Chambers</p> 	<p>27 Keith &amp; Patsy Hartsfield (A) Bill &amp; Karen Rumpf (A)</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29 Frances Cline</p> 	<p>30 Office Closed</p>	<p>31 Office Closed Jackson Donaldson</p> 	<p>1 Office Closed</p>	<p>2 JANUARY 8 am Men's Breakfast</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>