

February 2022

Monthly Newsletter of Jennings United Methodist Church

# Methodist *messenger*



*From the Pastor's Desk...*

## WANDERINGS!

It's easy to get lost in the wilderness and wander through the maze of LIFE. I feel like we have been wandering these past two years. Sometimes it feels like we have been on vacation and simply aren't ready to get back to "regular life."

Distractions that lead us away from God causes us to get lost and disillusioned and we begin to lose HOPE. We may even cry out to God and ask what is your purpose? Did you bring us here too be alone and live in FEAR? Have you abandoned us in our wilderness?

When we spend too much time watching the news or on social media we become distracted and it is hard to find our way out and back to what we may call "normal." We may even find ourselves seeking the most recent gossip so we can keep up with "what's happenin' now."

There is a solution to "wandering" that is fairly simple. Set aside the first fifteen minutes of every day and spend it in prayer and meditation. Begin by reading one or two chapters of your Bible and then praying for the list of concerns printed in the church bulletin.

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**From the Pastor's Desk Continued ...**

Then as you begin your daily activities think of someone you have not seen or heard from in a while and give them a call, write them a "thinking of you card," or stop in for a short visit. By doing this you will lift the heart of another person and lift your heart as well.

Then there is the call from the church saying "Come Home and Worship with US." We are the body of Christ and when one is absent the body is incomplete. When one is hurting the body hurts with that one. We need everyone to come home and the time is NOW.

There will always be rumblings of wars and sickness but there is also very rich and loving life to experience. Today we are in the middle of a series titled "Love Never Ends." Soon we will be in the season of Lent and another series will begin.

Come out of your desert and join us on Sunday. Listen, walk, and talk to God every morning, noon, and night. Stick to the simple goals each day.

May God bless your home and may all that God has placed in your care receive His blessing.

See you in Sunday School and worship this Sunday.  
And remember to pray daily.

God Bless  
Walter L Parker, Your Pastor

**The Living Last Supper**



*I Am  
the Lord  
of the  
Dance*



**We are looking forward to a reflective Lent and a jubilant Easter celebration this year. Some things will be different during our Holy Week time together. Please see the information below for each special service.**

**PALM SUNDAY:** Our youth and children will participate during the morning worship by processing in with palm branches waving as we remember our Lord's humble procession into Jerusalem. Then, they will present their Easter program at 4:00 p.m. with a small reception to follow in Fellowship Hall.

**MAUNDY THURSDAY:** We will present the Living Last Supper this year. We are in need of men to cast the roles of each disciple. Our older youth boys are welcome to participate. Please contact Sarah, Kim, or Crystal as soon as possible to be a part of this special remembrance of the Last Supper.

**GOOD FRIDAY:** We will once again have our meditation stations for private prayer and reflection from 8:00 am-3:00 pm. This year, we will close the prayer time at 3:00 in order to prepare for our Good Friday Tenebrae Service that will take place at 6:00 p.m. Please let Crystal or Sarah know if you would be willing to read Scripture or narration parts for this service of darkness.

**EASTER CANTATA:** Sometime following Easter Sunday, our chancel choir will continue the Easter celebration during their worship as they present I Am the Lord of the Dance. If you would be interested in participating in this musical celebration through singing or by narrating, please contact Sarah.

**Love puts up with all  
things, trusts in all things,  
hopes for all things,  
endures all things.**

**– 1 Corinthians 13:7**

**FEBRUARY 6: 5TH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY**

**1 Corinthians 15:1-11**

**Scripture Reader:** Kim Precht

**Prelude:** "Lord, I Lift Your Name on High"

**Hymn:** "O How I Love Jesus" - UMH #170

**Anthem:** "Sinner Saved By Grace"

**Communion Song:** "But For Your Grace"

**Praise Song:** "Death Was Arrested"



**FEBRUARY 13: BAPTISM OF THE LORD SUNDAY**

**1 Corinthians 15:12-20**

**Scripture Reader:** Anne Arceneaux

**Prelude:** "O Praise the Name (Anástasis)"

**Hymn:** "Sing with All the Saints in Glory" - UMH #702

**Anthem:** "Forever"

**Praise Song:** "I Will Rise"



**FEBRUARY 20: 7TH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY**

**1 CORINTHIANS 15:35-38, 42-50**

**Scripture Reader:** Randy Daigle

**Prelude:** "I Will Rise"

**Hymn:** "Hymn of Promise" - UMH #707

**Anthem:** "Glorious Day" with "Victory in Jesus"

**Praise Song:** "Glory to God"



**FEBRUARY 27: TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY**

**1 CORINTHIANS 12:12-31a**

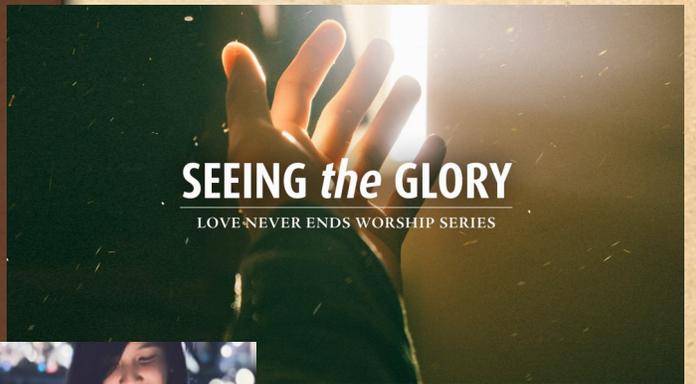
**Scripture Reader:** Dean Sawyer

**Prelude:** "Shine, Jesus, Shine"

**Hymn:** "Spirit of Faith, Come Down" - UMH #332

**Anthem:** "Shine on Us"

**Praise Song:** "Cornerstone"



**LOVE NEVER ENDS**

WORSHIP SERIES



Youth  
Valentine's  
Dinner  
Fundraiser

Saturday,  
February 12th  
6pm-8pm

Dine In or  
Carry Out

\$20 Donation

Valentine's Dinner  
Menu:

Appetizer: Corn Bisque Soup

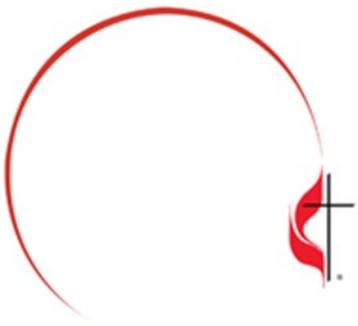
Main Course:

Pork Steak with Apricot Glaze  
Mash Potatoes  
Green Bean Casserole  
Roll

Dessert: Caramel Bread  
Pudding

All proceeds go toward our





# Youth Ministry Update



We have begun our new series for Sunday school titled 'Boy Meets Girl'. This is a study on four very important couples in the bible:

- Adam & Eve
- Rachel & Jacob
- Sampson & Delilah
- Ruth & Boaz

We meet every Sunday morning at 9:30am. I would like to encourage all my youth to attend Sunday School.



JUMC Youth meet weekly for Bible Studies on Sunday afternoons from 4:00pm-5:30pm. We are finishing up a series called "Struggles". This series has been very interesting to me as a youth leader. Listening and praying with our youth, hearing the daily struggles that take place in their lives...We as adults go through struggles daily, but to know these youth are struggling in a time when they should be enjoying their youth just hurts my heart. In today's world, our youth need our prayers!! I would invite you to daily pray for our children and our youth!

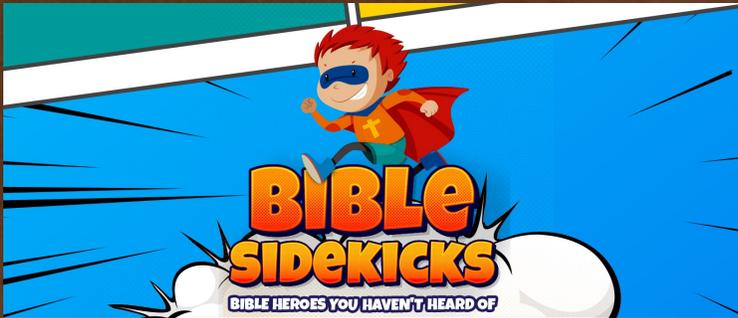
Our next bible study will be a "Marvel" Bible study. It's a 4-week series on the awe-inspiring miracles of Jesus. This series helps students realize that although Jesus is all-powerful and can perform mighty acts, everything he has done and will do points us towards a loving relationship with him.

Thank you for sharing your youth & children with us!  
Crystal

And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.

- Romans 8:30

## SUNDAY EVENING ELEMENTARY SMALL GROUP



- Lesson 1: The Speaker – Aaron  
Scripture: Exodus 4:10-17, 6:28-7:6,  
A Reluctant Hero
- Lesson 2: The Wise Father-in-Law — Jethro  
Scripture: Exodus 18:1-27,  
Jethro Advises Moses
- Lesson 3: The Connector — Naomi  
Scripture: Ruth 2-3
- Lesson 4: The Wing Man—Jonathan  
Scripture: 1Samuel 19, David and Jonathan
- Lesson 5: The Peacemaker - Abigail  
Scripture: 1 Samuel 25, David Meets Abigail
- Lesson 6: The Man Who Knew No Fear - Nathan  
Scripture: 2 Samuel 12, Nathan Rebukes David
- Lesson 7: The Good Student - Elisha  
Scripture: 2 Kings 2:1-22
- Lesson 8: David's Mighty Men  
Scripture: 2 Samuel 23:8-17, The Mighty Men
- Lesson 9: The Fire Walkers - Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego  
Scripture: Daniel 3
- Lesson 10: The Point Man - John the Baptist  
Scripture: John 1:19-37,  
John the Baptist Prepares the Way
- Lesson 11: The Music Man - Silas  
Scripture: Acts 16:16-40, Paul and Silas in Jail
- Lesson 12: The Tent Makers - Priscilla and Aquilla  
Scripture: Acts 18:1-3

## CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL



### Lesson One: Cross Country Skiing Scripture: Luke 4:1-13, The Temptation of Jesus

Cross country skiers have to stay strong and keep the pace throughout the long race. We will learn that with God's word to guide us, we can stay strong in any situation.

### Lesson Two: Ice Hockey Scripture: Exodus 14:19-27, Crossing the Red Sea

Two teams hit the ice but only one team is victorious. We will learn that we can trust God to lead us to victory no matter how difficult the challenge we face may be.

### Lesson Three: Bobsled Scripture: Daniel 6:10-23, Daniel in the Lion's Den

A good bobsled team knows when to push and when to stop and let gravity take control. We will learn that we can trust God, knowing that he is always in control.

LOVE

## Children's Ministry Corner

The new Sunday school series for our elementary class is centered around the Winter Olympics. You can find the information on the previous page. While we have an awesome group for our Sunday evening Elementary Group Bible study, I would still encourage all our younger persons to attend Sunday school each week. All children 5th grade and below are welcome to join us each week as we spend time learning together before our worship service.

We are continuing to have a small group Bible study and fellowship time for our elementary school members (grades 1-5) on Sunday evenings at the same time as our youth group (4:00-5:30). We are continuing to work through our study of Bible Sidekicks (as shown on the previous page).

We have asked for volunteers to be a second adult present with this group in order to comply with the parameters for Safe Sanctuary. The invitation is a standing one...you are welcome at any time!!! We would love to have you join us as we learn to share and study in a small group setting.

We have already been blessed by evenings with several volunteers. I would like to say that perhaps more important than any guidelines that we are covering with additional adults, we are investing in our youngest members. Your time with them allows for relationship building and breaking down of generational barriers and divides. It is time well-invested and will bless you time and time again!

*In Christ,  
Sarah*

## UMC Mission to Honduras

We are still collecting chewable vitamins for the medical mission to Honduras. We have a box located in the hallway leading to the sanctuary. Please help us fulfill this need for this mission trip! We need everyone's help to make this possible. We are all called to serve in mission, even if we never leave our homes...this is an easy way to reach others around the world!



# MISSION SUNDAY MARCH 20, 2022



We are having a packing party for our missionaries that are traveling to Honduras for mission trip. We invite everyone to stay and eat lunch after church on **March 20** and help with this important part of their mission. After lunch we will help our missionaries prepare for their trip by packing vitamins that will be brought with them to distribute to the people of Honduras. We hope you will all join us as a church family for this important project!



## February Birthdays

- 3<sup>rd</sup>-Ronnie White
- 5<sup>th</sup>-Livi Romero
- 6<sup>th</sup>-Karen Daigle
- 9<sup>th</sup>-Billie Boudoin
- 12<sup>th</sup>-Shelia Fruge,  
Daniel Hebert,  
William Romero
- 17<sup>th</sup>-Debbie White
- 18<sup>th</sup>-Dot Berry

Now faith, hope,  
and love remain—  
these three things—  
and the greatest of  
these is love.

1 Corinthians  
13:13