

Jimtown OpenLine



*Building Bridges To The
Families Of Our Community!*

Jamestown United Methodist Church

Volume 20 issue 1

JANUARY 2018

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CHURCH STAFF

- **Steve Loft**
Pastor
- **Steve Allen**
Choir Director
Music Director
- **Pam Allen**
Organist
- **Sharon Shinn**
Administrative Assistant
- **Geri Angel**
Custodian
- **Andrea Loft**
Children's Ministry



Starting Afresh

I recently came across a quotation by G. K. Chesterton that highlights the value of starting afresh.

The object of a New Year is not that we should have a new year. It is that we should have a new soul and a new nose; new feet, a new backbone, new ears, and new eyes. Unless a particular man made New Year resolutions, he would make no resolutions. Unless a man starts afresh about things, he will certainly do nothing effective.

G.K. Chesterton, A Chesterton Calendar

New Years and New Year's resolutions can remind us of the gift of starting over, or starting afresh, as Chesterton would put it. It is a reminder to keep improving in life.

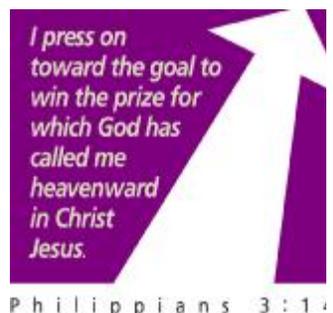
People respond in a variety of ways to the greeting "How are you." I have heard answers like "fantastic" and "truly wonderful" from people in the Jamestown congregation. One gentleman was known to have said "Improving" every time he was asked how he was. The Apostle Paul was inspired to write about starting over and moving ahead this way.

Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 3:12-14

God can and will use the new year to remind us that He is still at work in and through us to help us "take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold" of us. Righteousness and holiness are worthy targets for the people of God. They are why Jesus took hold of us. So let us press on to take hold of them.

Starting afresh with you,
Pastor Steve Loft



Philippians 3:14

December Fund Balances

Air/Heat Replacement	\$14,170.79
Building & Improvements	\$ 5,556.04
Club 52	\$ 183.12
Evangelism & Growth	\$ 395.61
Electronic Sign	\$ 7,156.01
Families in Need	\$ 983.29
Church Music Dept	\$ 2,185.01
Audio/Video	\$ 1,458.46
Carpet - Sanctuary	\$27,601.52

1	Allen	Angel
	Pam	Hochstetler
3	Jill	Biller
	Jenny	Starkey
6	Brooklyn	Johnson
	Brooke	Stout
7	Keith	Cook
8	Nancy	Mahler
11	Isabella	Ullery
12	Mike	Beehler
14	Eula Lee	Geyer
	Jodie	Squibb
	Meghan	Vest
15	Lucas	Smith
17	Roger	Stoops
18	Marci	Struble
	Erica	Young
23	Jackie	Ullery
	Mason	Steele
26	Jeff	Starkey
28	Steve	Squibb
29	Roe	Skibbe
31	Betty	Stout



Volunteer opportunity for you or someone you know. *LoveWay Therapeutic Equestrian Services* LoveWay provides therapeutic horse experiences for over 300 people every year with a variety of disabilities who come to a weekly morning, afternoon or evening session. LoveWay has around 200 volunteers and always needs more, to help with the classes or do maintenance or office work. For more information visit: www.lovetwayinc.org or talk to Deb Beehler, who volunteers at LoveWay.

Thank you for your generous donation. On behalf of our staff, volunteers and most importantly our guests, we're thrilled you've opened your heart to those in dire need. Gratefully, Ross Swihart, Executive Director

Friends,
You are an important part of an essential group of donors and volunteers. With your support, we've built 195 homes and help create stability for families in our Elkhart County community. Your donation will be used to help pay for the foundation of our next home. Thank you so much! Ralph Jackson Executive Director

Your recent monetary donation was greatly appreciated by Susanna's Kitchen. Your \$100 donation provides over 65 servings. Thank you. Sharon McDowell, Treasurer

Thank you for your donation! From a former participant of Soup of Success, Claire: "I just had an interview and there were two interviewers in the room. I was so nervous, but kept a smile and made eye contact. They told me that they liked my answers, did a very good job at being interviewed, and asked if I was even nervous at all!" The following week, she learned she got the job. Sincerely, Tom McArthur Executive Director

Dear Revered,
Thank you for your donation to the Council on Aging of Elkhart County. Your contribution has helped a valuable but too-often overlooked segment of our community: the elderly. Your generosity enables us to provide needed transportation services, in-home care, and life enrichment programs to the senior citizens in our community. Why do we do it? Because the people we serve deserve no less than our best. David Toney, CEO

Dear Friends in Mission,
Thank you for your gift of \$1,795.00 to General Board of Global Ministries through The Advance, the designated mission giving channel of the United Methodist Church. We are pleased to share that 100% of your contribution will support the missionary community in honor of Disaster Response. Thank you for joining with us in God's mission. Grace & Peace, Roland Fernandes, General Treasurer, GBGM

19	Adam & Stacie	Remaly	1992
22	Ed & Sue	Raab	1956
30	Gary & Becky	Buss	1972



Thank you, Thank you, Thank you,
Very, very, very Much!
Jamestown UMC,
Thank you for the generous donation. I am so grateful for the many ways you support the preschool. The money will help with tuition for those that are struggling, field trips, and daily expenses. Thank you again so very much!
Kathy & Jamestown Preschool

Thank you all for my care package and all of the goodies! I always appreciate it. I am looking forward to graduating this May. Holly Angel

Dear Jamestown family,
Thank you so much for the generous Christmas gift. It is more fun than you can imagine to work for and with such a loving, friendly bunch of Christian people. Sharon

"Kindness is like snow – it beautifies everything it covers."
--Kahlil Gibran

"The greatest act of mercy that God performs is giving the gift of faith."
--R.C. Sproul

STRUCTURES

Tourists travel many miles to view structures of all types.

Match each of the following structures with the person or persons associated with it.

1.		High priest	Matthew 26: 58	a. college
2.		Babel	Genesis 11: 4	b. cottage and lodge
3.		Amos	Amos 3: 15	c. inn
4.		Wife of Shallum	2 Kings 22: 14	d. stable
5.		Jesus	Luke 2: 7	e. summer and winter houses
6.		Rabbah	Ezekiel 25: 5	f. Temple (house of God)
7.		Rich man	Luke 12: 18	g. Tabernacle
8.		Levites	Number 1: 51	h. Theater
9.		Paul	Acts 19: 29	i. Tower
10.		Daughter of Zion	Isaiah 1: 8	j. Barns
11.		Solomon	1 Kings 6: 14	k. palace

NAME _____

Return Quiz January 24th

Answers for "Fowl": 1. Doves, 2. Ravens, 3. Sparrow, 4. Ravens, 5. Dove, 6. Cock, 7. Ostrich, 8. Eagles, 9. Eagles', 10. Doves, 11. Dove, 12. Turtledoves and pigeons.

Those that were up for a challenge were: Marcia Clark, Marta Clark, Doug Cook, Arletah Hochstetler and Jane Lechlitrer.

JANUARY VOLUNTEERS

	7 TH	14 TH	21 ST	28 TH
Welcome Center				
Liturgist	LuAnn Pontius			
Greeters	Jane Rapp, Ray & Arletah Hochstetler			
Acolytes	Warren & Susi Allender			
Children's Message	Pastor Steve			
Cookie Fellowship	Jon & Tami Pyfer, Dick & Joan Briggs	Doug Cook, Maria Moleski, Gary & Becky Buss	Paul & Jan Slabaugh, Warren & Susi Allender	Dave & LuAnn Pontius, Mike & Vici Vogel
Nursery	Lana Berg			
Children's Church	Andrea Loft			
Usher's	Tanner Clark, Mark Cook, Jim Starkey & Larry Stickel			

TRUSTEES

December 14, 6:00 p.m.

Work Completed: Snow removal equipment & plowing is ready, minor work in Apt. A & B is done. Church is incorporated.

Boiler: Ordered ignition system

Electronic Sign: Checking on 4 x 8 sign and pixels needed for clear pictures.

Church Security: Many signs are posted. Training for Medical staff will be in January also for Trustees.

Parsonage Tree, CR 3 Bridge: Signed a contract with the county for tree removal & yard seeding to make room for their bridge construction.

Parsonage: Chimney inspected in Spring.

Church: May need tuck pointing on bricks. May need to caulk windows in Fellowship hall, choir & classrooms.

Chair Lift & Elevator: To be inspected soon.

Thank you to our Trustees whose terms are ending, with a big shout out for all projects that have been completed this year. And Welcome to our incoming Trustees in 2018.

JANUARY COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Wed	10 th	7:00 pm	Emergency Management
Thurs	11 TH	6:00 pm	Finance Committee
		7:00 pm	S/PPR
Thurs	18 TH	6:30 pm	Trustees
Wed	24 th	7:30 pm	Worship Committee
Thurs	25 TH	6:00 pm	Church Council

USHERS

Plan to attend our organizational meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 16th at 6:00 pm. We have new details to discuss.

SENIOR LUNCHEON

We will not meet again until March 6th. Stay warm and safe.

UNITED METHODIST MEN'S BREAKFAST

Men you are all cordially invited to come and enjoy a wonderful breakfast and male bonding experience prior to the uplifting worship service. We meet the First Sunday of every month at 7:00 a.m.

WELCOME CENTER

Please sign up at the Welcome Center to work at the Welcome Center. Instructions are available. Thank You.



STAFF/PASTOR PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE

is seeking an energetic, fun-loving Youth Director.

If you or someone you know is interested, please send your inquiries or resume to Jamestown UMC.

MISSIONS COMMITTEE

Loose Coin: We have chosen Goshen Interfaith Hospitality Center at 105 S. 3rd St. Goshen. They are part of St. Mark's UMC of Goshen and run a family and single female homeless center, which is open 24 hrs. a day with supervision for participants. The offering of \$209.63 went to purchase meat for our Christmas Baskets. Thank you for your generosity with these projects.

Susanna's Kitchen: We are in need of two volunteers to help once a month. If you can help, please call **Kathleen Stout at 584-4130**.

Our week to serve is the 3rd Monday of the month.

Feed the Firemen: We need people to sign up to provide a meal for our Baugo Firefighters the night of their training session. We usually feed about 15 people. This is the 1st Monday of the month. Take your course to the Fire station by 6:30 p.m. Thanks for all you do.

CHURCH COMMUNITY SERVICES

This month we are encouraging each family to bring any SOUP AND CRACKERS. Of course we will take any non-perishable food item you bring. Let's continue to work together to show God's love to our community. ~~We are also in need of someone to take the collected food to CCS each month. After many years of volunteering in this way, Jim & Helen Wernicke have decided it is time to "pass the baton" to the next volunteers.~~ Thank you Berg's and Pontius' for volunteering!!

FOR OUR CHILDREN

During a recent Craft night, nine activity bags were made and filled with supplies for children attending church before the Children's Message. They are available at the Welcome Center. Stop by and pick one up for your child to enjoy.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

We will not meet in January. We will gather together on February 25th at 7:45 a.m.

RETA

The 7th Annual Elkhart County Rally and Prayer Walk for Life is on Saturday, January 13th at the Lerner Theater, downtown Elkhart at NOON. The program will include emcee Jeff Fater, RETA Men's Coaching Manager and keynote speaker Melissa Ohden. She is a survivor of an abortion attempt and now works with individuals and organizations across the U.S., Canada, and Australia advocating for the rights of the unborn. She is a voice for the voiceless. The Rally will include testimonies from women who have experienced abortion and will be followed by a short prayer walk to RETA and the Women's Care Center in Elkhart. Go to www.elkhart4life.org for more information.

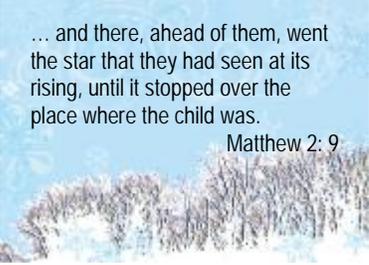
Come Back to Christmas

When January comes along, we can continue that sense of comfort and warmth that comes at Christmas by returning to the Christmas story, which gives us two great promises: God understands you, and God can redeem you.

I encourage people to make it a point to reread the Christmas story every month, and allow Christmas to be Christmas every month. We need to keep coming back to it.

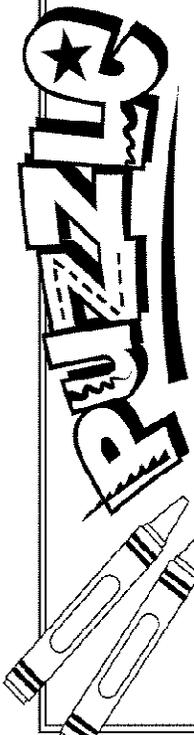
—Max Lucado, Publishers Weekly interview

Jamestown United Methodist Church
 59218 CR 3
 Elkhart, IN 46517
 Phone: (574) 293-3905
www.Jamestownumc.org
 "Building Bridges To The
 Families Of Our Community!"



... and there, ahead of them, went
 the star that they had seen at its
 rising, until it stopped over the
 place where the child was.

Matthew 2: 9



PUZZLE

A NEW CREATION

The apostle Paul says everyone who believes
 in Jesus becomes brand new.

Directions: Cross out every third letter. Then write the remaining letters in the
 blanks to complete 2 Corinthians 5:17, NIV

THIEROEFQORXEIDFAMNYAON
 SEILSITNCVHRKISDTTBHEWNE
 QWCDREYATMIOC�HFASWCOR
 MEGTHWEOLFDXHASSGZONL
 ETJHEWNEQWIDSHREROE

_____ | 2 CORINTHIANS 5:17, NIV