



The Messenger

"To know Him and to make Him known" February 2018

On Sunday, January 21 we began a new sermon series, entitled: BRAVE. This series launches our year-long emphasis on what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ. How does one go about being a disciple? Am I automatically a disciple if I profess to be a Christian? Am I a disciple if I go to church every Sunday? What if the better question is not *what* I can do to be a disciple, but *how* can I live as a disciple of Jesus Christ?

If we look at the teachings of Jesus one of the primary ways we can *be* a disciple is to love each other. Jesus said in John 13:35: *"I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."* The founder of the Methodist movement, John Wesley described the character of a Methodist as one who: *"has the love of God shed abroad in his heart by the Holy Ghost given unto him."* Jesus loved us perfectly and shares with us the power to love ourselves and others in his strength. We love others, because he has loved us. So as his disciples we are called to live so bathed in the love of Jesus that others are led to connect with God. I believe we live such lives when we spend time falling in love with God, learning to love ourselves, and then practice loving others.

If I am honest, loving others sometimes can be difficult. I have even asked God a time or two for a reprieve from loving someone in particular. It is in that space I find that God grows me and my love for God grows. I once had difficulty loving someone who had hurt my mother. My mother has a long-term illness called Dystonia. Someone in church had shamed her in the greeting line because my mother had not been attending church regularly. My father is the pastor, and as his wife, she should be in church no matter what. My mother physically could not attend through no fault of her own. In fact, it grieved her to miss church. She phoned me and sobbed in shame. I prayed: "Could, I please Lord have an excuse not to love this woman?" I mean what she had done was unfair and wrong. Sadly, I decided that I had the right to go and confront her. Not consulting anyone else, I did so. It was not a great idea and did not go well. The woman became quite furious. My mother was embarrassed and then showed me how the loving heart of Jesus would respond. She went to this woman's house and asked for forgiveness on my behalf. She then asked to pray with this woman and they formed a redemptive friendship. My mother was still hurt, but offered grace. I was wrong and received mercy. This sounds a lot like the Gospel. Did this woman change? I really don't know; but I did. My mother saw past the hurt to a woman who needed love.

This is how Jesus sees us. He sees a precious child who needs love. He went to the cross and died for our sin and brokenness before we even knew that there was a God who loved us. His love pierced our hearts and convinced us with grace and unmerited favor of this great love. I am loved by God. This woman is loved by God. You are loved by God. We can love and yet have boundaries, but we need to love others as we have been loved. This is not natural. It is unfair. Yes, that is why it is called grace. It is lavish and undeserved. Everyday this should sink into our souls more. We are loved so deeply. From that deep well of God's love, from the strength we are given through that love, we can love others. Are there people in your life, that you will need God's strength to love? If so, pray, God will give you the wisdom and strength to love them in godly ways.

I can even love myself after I make a big mistake and defend my mother in exactly the wrong way. I needed to receive God's love and grace for me when I cried tears of shame for making the situation worse. My mother's gentle rebuke and words of love shaped me. Are there places in your soul that you need to receive God's love and grace for you? You are God's precious child and he loves you.

We can grow in being a disciple of Jesus Christ by receiving God's love for us, by loving God, and by loving others through His strength. Will you spend time with me this month learning to love others so much that people who do not yet know of God's love for them, stop and ask questions?

Senior Pastor ~ Melanie Fierbaugh



YOUTH MINISTRY

Can You Be a Student Leader?

If you can do just ONE of the following, even YOU can be a Student Leader:

A. Pray	B. Cook	C. See	D. Sit	E. Stand	F. Sing
G. Laugh	H. Read	I. Play	J. Plan	K. Host	L. Teach
M. Listen	N. Walk	O. Eat	P. Glare	Q. Encourage	R. Count
S. Drive	T. Ride in a Vehicle	U. Be Goofy	V. Be Serious	W. Care	X. Be A Friend
Y. Be Available			Z. Show Jesus to Others		

The students of Lake Placid need Memorial United Methodist Church. They need you. If you're an adult follower of Jesus, consider cooking a meal for our students on Sunday evenings (you could even do it with a friend), or teaching our Youth Sunday School class.

Consider coming and playing pool with students on Sunday or Wednesday evenings, or sitting in on our class times to help keep the focus. Consider volunteering to drive to outings or just come eat with us one night. The ways in which you can serve the Gospel and serve our students are countless.



If you'd like to be a Student Leader, or discuss how you might best serve our youth, call me at 863.465.2422 or email me at YouthDirector@MemorialUMC.com. I'd love to talk to you!

Stuart Upton

Director of Student Ministries



“Sharing the Heart of Jesus Around the World”

Sunday, February 11 ~ Ephesians 3:18-20

Join us Sunday, February 11 for a morning of glory filled worship and teaching that will help connect you to Jesus’ heart for the nations. We will host Dan Christopherson, the District Coordinator of the Cuba-Florida Mission partnership at both services. The Memorial Missions Team has added another mission to the ways we connect with the work Christ is doing in the nations. The Cuba Methodist Church is growing exponentially as revival spreads across the island. We will be partnering with one church, as a sister church, and sharing together in ministry as the Lord leads us. There will be opportunity to visit our sister church and partner in many exciting ways. Bring friends and neighbors to hear about the exciting things God is doing in Cuba.

Representatives from all of Mission Partners will be available to chat in Rob Reynolds Hall during the Sunday School hour and at the Potluck Lunch following the worship services. ***The Missions Team will provide the pulled pork and beverages, please bring a side dish and or dessert to share.***

The Missions Team would also like you to prayerfully consider what God is calling you to give to our Mission Fund at Memorial this year. Our Hearts for Missions fund joins in ministry with 8 missions around the world. We would like you to pray about what amount you feel led to give that is above and beyond your tithe commitment to the general fund of Memorial. Ephesians 3:20-21 says: “Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever.” We humbly ask you to pray for what faith promise commitment you are being called by God to make for Heart for Missions this year.

9:15am Meet and Greet in Rob Reynolds hall

12:00pm Mix and Mingle and Potluck Luncheon with Pulled Pork Provided, Bring Side Dishes & Deserts

Joy Bags will be distributed again on Monday, February 12th after 10:00am. Thanks to all who will help! We would also like to thank anyone who has provided any food items, the craft team for decorating the bags and beautiful cards. ***Please know that the recipients of the bags feel blessed for receiving them.***
~ Pastor Jerry

H.O.O.I. News ~We are taking names of people wanting to go to the Dominican Republic Mission Trip to the Children Home July 2-9. If you are interested, contact **Troy White** by catching him at church, or write H.O.O.I., PO Box 1370, Lake Placid, FL 33862.



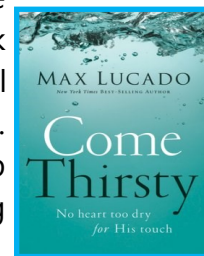
2	Diana	Herbert
2	Joshua	McNally
2	Marcia	Meadows
2	Mason	Smoak
4	Sharon	Puckett
5	Cory	Fierbaugh
6	Dale	Schanely
7	Jessie	Causey
7	Caylee	Howerton
8	Warren	Braman
8	Nancy	Reaney
9	Kathy	White
11	Stanley	Stankus
14	David	Summers
15	John	Hendrie
15	Claire	Leffler
15	Van	Meadows
16	Rebecca	Wacker
18	Carlene	Clark
18	Ben	Fierbaugh
18	Darrell	Heckman
20	Betty	Near
20	Ruth	Russell
21	Melissa	Russell
22	Mary	Gebhart
22	Pedro	Quinones
23	Marie	Whitcomb
27	Stan	Koster
27	Barb	Packard
28	Karen	Collette



**United
Methodist
Women**
FAITH•HOPE•LOVE IN ACTION

On Tuesday, February 6th at 1:00 pm in Rob Reynolds Hall we will have the traditional Memorial for our members who have passed during the preceding year. We will honor Ellen Jongens, Doris May, and Sandy Allen, remembering their many contributions of service through the years. Come and help us celebrate their lives ~ **Ruth Shutts**

Mary Martha Group~The Mary Martha Group will meet Thursday, February 15th at 1 PM in the Men's Bible Classroom. We will study three chapters from Max Lucado's book Come Thirsty. The chapters we will study are 7. Waiting for Power, 8. God's Body Glove and, 9. It's Not Up to You. We look forward to studying together. ~ **Ruth Shutts**



LP Health Care...Service will be held **Sunday, February 11th** at 4:00 pm located at 125 Tomoka Blvd S, Lake Placid, FL 33852. If available, please help us get the residents to the service at 3:45 pm. Thank you ~ Pastor Jerry.

It is Craft Time Again! Please join us on Wednesday, February 7, 2018 at 9:00 am in the Lighthouse for a time of fellowship and crafting. For more information call Avis Keen at 465-7475. See you there!

Chat 'n Chew will gather for a time of fellowship at The Smoke Shack BBQ, next door to their old location on Monday, February 19, 2018 at 6:00pm. We will be able to order off of the regular menu and have individual or couple checks. Please contact



Chat 'n Chew

Sharon Puckett if you have any questions 863-465-1998. We look forward to a time to worship God and fellowship together.

FEBRUARY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 6 PM Writers' Workshop 6 PM Band Practice	2	3 Lake Placid Country Fair-DeVane Park
4 8:30 Worship 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:45 Worship 5 PM Youth Fellowship (LH) Lake Placid Country Fair-DeVane Park	5	6 7:15 AM HS Prayer Group (LH) 10 AM Change of Pace 1 PM UMW Meeting (RRH) 6 PM LVCS Board Meeting	7 10 AM Craft Class 6 AM Prayer Group 6:30 PM Youth Group 7 PM Choir	8 6 PM Writers' Workshop 6 PM Band Practice	9	10 8:30 AM-3:00 PM Thrive Conference Port Charlotte, FL
11 8:30 AM Worship 9:15 AM Missions Meet & Greet (RRH) 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship 5 PM Youth Fellowship (LH) 4 PM Lake Placid HC Service	12	13 7:15 AM HS Prayer Group (LH) 8 AM LP Ministerial Association (Hospital) 10 AM Change of Pace	14 6 AM Prayer Group 6:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service 6:30 PM Youth Group 7 PM Choir 	15 12 PM Newsletter Deadline 1 PM Mary Martha Group (MBC) 6 PM Writers' Workshop 6 PM Band Practice	16	17
18 8:30 Worship 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:45 Worship 5 PM Youth Fellowship (LH)	19 Office Closed Pres Day  6 PM Chat 'n Chew	20 7:15 AM HS Prayer Group (LH) 10 AM Change of Pace 12 PM Newsletter Deadline	21 6 AM Prayer Group 6:30 PM Youth Group 7 PM Choir	22 3:30 PM Manna Board Meeting (LBC)	23	24
25 8:30 Worship 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:45 Worship 5 PM Youth Fellowship (LH)	26 	27 7:15 AM HS Prayer Group (LH) 10 AM Change of Pace 6:30 PM Mission Team	28 6 AM Prayer Group 6:30 PM Youth Group 7 PM Choir		Note*** Finance and Trustee Meeting Dates TBD	



Sunday School Classes at 9:30am

Nursery	Martha Oliveras	Birth—5	Nursery
SonShine Club	Volunteers	K-3rd Grade	Clubhouse
45 Zone	Scott & Sally Durban	4th & 5th Grade	Upper Room
Ladies Bible Class	Team of Teachers	Discussions & Lectures	Ladies Bible Class
Men's Bible Class	John Causey	Discussions Class	Men's Bible Class
Pathfinders	Melissa Russell	Discussions Class	Room 203
Wesley Fellowship	Troy White	Discussions Class	Room 204

Current Small Groups—Heart Groups

Monday	Ladies 6 PM 217 N. Main Street Carlene Clark 863-441-0200
Tuesday	Adults 7 PM 114 Lakefront Court NE George Hill 863-465-2503
Thursday	Adults 7 PM 158 Blue Moon Avenue Hartman's 863-465-0695
Friday	Men 8 AM McDonald's Claude Burnett 863-464-0330

Weekly Worship Schedule

Worship Services

8:30am and 10:45am

Fellowship~9:15am to 10:40am

Sunday School~ 9:30am

Memorial United Methodist Church
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863-465-2826 Fax

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Office Hours: Monday ~ Thursday 8:30 AM through 4:30 PM
Friday's by Appointment