



JANUARY SCRIPTURES

February 5
5th Sunday of Epiphany,
Communion Sunday
Guest Speaker: Rev. Sharon Nelson

February 12
6th Sunday of Epiphany
Scripture: 1 Corinthians 3:1-9
Message: What's for dinner?

February 19
7th Sunday after Epiphany
Communion Sunday
Scripture: Isaiah 40:21-31
Message: Everlasting

February 26
Transfiguration Sunday
Scripture: 2 Peter 1:16-21
Message: Witness to the Wonders



Jeremiah 29:11

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.



PINE ISLAND SHARING SHELF

February is Macaroni & Cheese

Issue 122—February, 2017

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Love, Hope, a place to Belong

Love, Hope, a place to Belong
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Pine Chips

LOVE, HOPE, A PLACE TO BELONG

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Pastor Carolyn's Conundrums:

Every year Dave and I have the same discussion about Valentines day. Why does it exist? Was it made up by the card and flower companies to make money? "I don't need a special day to love you, I love you all year long!" ...

I suppose those same questions could be asked about Christmas, Easter, and all the other special days of the year.

So why do you celebrate? What do all these holidays mean to you? Do some of the holidays mean more to you?

I believe all these holidays have a place. Should we need them? No. Do we need them, I think so. We get so busy with our everyday lives that we can lose focus, on God, our families.... It is important to take those days to remember the birth of the savior, the ultimate gift from God. It is important to remember Easter, the ultimate sacrifice and triumph of God. While I may not put Valentine's day at quite the same level as these afore mentioned holidays, I believe it is an important reminder to acknowledge our love, for our significant others, families and God.

In a world filled with such hate (if we are to believe the news) we need to be intentional about sharing love. Not just the eros (physical) love we have for our spouses, or even the philia (brotherly) love we have for others. But the God given agape (unconditional) love. This is the love that God has called us to live into. This is the love of God shown through us. This is the love that is a light in the darkness. This is the love that kept Jesus on the cross.

So this Valentine's day, month, year... may we allow God to love through us. This Valentines day, month, year... may you remember that you are loved beyond measure! As we have been loved, may we so love.

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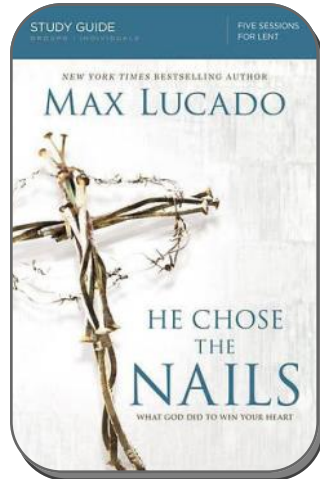
Committee Members

Usher list for 2017

*The editor reserves the
right to edit any or all
articles for content
and/or spacing.*



LENTEN STUDY: He Chose The Nails



Every gift from God reveals his love, but no gift reveals his love more than the gifts of the cross. These gifts came not wrapped in paper but in passion. They were not placed around a tree but around a cross. They were not covered with ribbons but sprinkled with the blood that Christ shed on our behalf.

In this five-session video Bible study, Max Lucado explores the many gifts that Christ provided to us at his crucifixion. These include not only the gift of the cross, but also the gift of the thorns that pierced his brow. The nails that tore his flesh. The seamless robe that he removed for us. The empty tomb where he forever defeated sin and death.

The hill of the cross is rich with the gifts of God's grace. These were gifts he didn't have to give. The only required act for our salvation was the shedding of blood, yet God did so much more. So, as we unwrap these gifts, we need to pause and listen for his voice. As we do, perhaps we will hear him whisper, "I did it just for you."

Session include: He Chose to Be One of Us; He Chose to Forgive Us; He Chose to Invite Us into His Presence; He Chose to Love Us Forever; He Chose to Give Us Victory

Please sign up by using the sign-up sheet in the back of the sanctuary or by contacting the church office, piumc@bevcomm.net. Dead line for signing up to receive a book is February 20th and the book cost is \$7.00.

MISSIONS

"Rise up; this matter is in your hands. We will support you, so take courage and do it." Ezra 10:4

Mission Box for February is for the Pine Island Sharing Shelves. They provide non-perishable food, refrigerated items, and personal items for those in need of temporary assistance. They serve anyone in the area and there are no income guidelines.



Pie Auction is February 26th for missions. Travis Klindworth, our fabulous pie auctioneer, will once again preside over the auction. Donations of pies are welcome. The auction will take place in the fellowship hall at 10:15am.



There is still time to sign up for the Red Bird Mission Trip. Trip dates are July 22nd - July 30th. The sign-up sheet is located in the back of the church. For more information, there is a brochure available. Contact Pastor Carolyn or Dawn Rohl.

Please pray for those going on the Sierra Leone mission trip February 2nd - 19th.



DECEMBER FINANCE

Monthly income: \$26,966, Monthly Expenses: \$37,832

Attendance is holding steady but giving is down.



FREE LASAGNA DINNER

The Evangelical Committee is hosting a FREE Lasagna dinner on Saturday, March 4th from 7pm to 9pm.

Donations of cookies, bars and/or monetary donations are welcome.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

