

JANUARY
2025



Marshall United Methodist Church

The Circuit Writer

NEWSLETTER

MONTHLY MESSAGE from the PASTOR

*²⁸ "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened,
and I will give you rest."*

*²⁹ "Take my yoke upon you and learn from me,
for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."*

³⁰ "For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

Matthew 11:28-30

Hello, Beloved.

Greetings to you in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Congratulations, you made it through another year! For many of you, 2024 was a year of sadness, pain, loss, and struggles. I wish I could say that you will never experience loss and grief again, but we know that is not true. Even Jesus tells us that following him will not be easy. For some of us, we feel that we missed out on something this past year. For others, the year wasn't all bad.

However, 2025 is here and it brings with it excitement and hope for a new year. I noticed this year, that even though there were many times I struggled, I was able to see the positives throughout because of my relationship with Jesus. In Matthew 11, Jesus tells us that if we truly follow him, it will bring us peace and relief from our struggles.

One way that we can try to come to him is in the practice of meditation; listening to what God is trying to tell us. How are we going to do this? I am so glad you asked.

During our worship service on Epiphany Sunday (January 5th), we are going to pass around a collection plate full of "Star Words." This is exactly what you are thinking. Each paper star will have a word on it and be placed upside down in the collection plate. You will rummage through, without looking at the words, and pick a "Star Word." This will be the word that God is calling you to meditate and reflect on this year. Place your word somewhere you can see it every day of the year and consider God's movement in your life through, around, and in connection to your "Star Word." Just as the magi were guided by the star to Jesus, let your "Star Word" guide you through the coming year and hopefully to a greater and deeper relationship with Jesus.

Beloved, I pray that you can gain a better relationship with Jesus this year through this practice. We will talk more about this in worship on January 5th. Also, don't forget about our planning session on January 18th. All are invited to come and participate in this. Your voice is important in the direction of the church. Happy New Year, everyone. I am excited to see what God is doing in your lives, and in our awesome church.

With Love & Peace - PJ

*"Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can,
at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can." John Wesley*

"A PRAYER to Keep God First This New Year"

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come."
2 Corinthians 5:17

Dear God,

Thank you that you make all things new. Thank you for all that you've allowed into our lives this past year, the good along with the hard things, which have reminded us how much we need you & rely on your presence filling us every single day.

We pray for your Spirit to lead us each step of this New Year. We ask that you will guide our decisions and turn our hearts to deeply desire you above all else. We ask that you will open doors needing to be opened and close the ones needing to be shut tight. We ask that you would help us release our grip on the things to which you've said "no," "not yet," or "wait." We ask for help to pursue you first, above every dream and desire you've put within our hearts.

We ask for your wisdom, for your strength and power to be constantly present within us. We pray you would make us strong and courageous for the road ahead. Give us ability beyond what we feel able, let your gifts flow freely through us, so that you would be honored by our lives, and others would be drawn to you.

We pray that you'd keep us far from the snares and traps of temptations. That you would whisper in our ear when we need to run, and whisper in our heart when we need to stand our ground.

We pray for your protection over our families & friends. We ask for your hand to cover us and keep us distanced from the evil intent of the enemy; that you would be a barrier to surround us, that we'd be safe in your hands. We pray that you would give us discernment and insight beyond our years, to understand your will, hear your voice, and know your ways.

We ask that you would keep our footsteps firm, on solid ground, helping us to be consistent and faithful. Give us supernatural endurance to stay the course, not swerving to the right or to the left, or being too easily distracted by other things that would seek to call us away from a close walk with you.

Forgive us for the times we have worked so hard to be self-sufficient, forgetting our need for you, living independent of your spirit. Forgive us for letting fear and worry control our minds, and for allowing pride and selfishness wreak havoc over our lives. Forgive us for not following your ways and for living distant from your presence.

We confess our need for you... fresh... new... again. We ask that you make all things new, in our hearts, in our minds, in our lives, for this coming year. We pray for your refreshing over us.

Keep your words of truth planted firm within us, help us to keep focused on what is pure and right, give us the power to be obedient to your word. And when the enemy reminds us where we have been, hissing his lies and attacks our way, we trust that your voice speaks louder and stronger, as you remind us we are safe with you and your purposes and plans will not fail. We ask that you will be our defense and rear guard, keeping our way clear, removing the obstacles, and covering the pitfalls. Lord, lead us on your level ground.

We ask that you would provide for our needs, we ask for your grace and favor. We pray for your blessings to cover us, we pray that you would help us to prosper and make every plan that you have birthed in our heart to succeed. We pray that others would take notice of your goodness and could not help but to say, "These are the ones that the Lord has blessed."

Help us to be known as great givers, help us to be generous and kind, help us to look to the needs of others and not be consumed by only our own. May we be lovers of truth, may the fruits of your spirit be evident in our lives - your love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

Shine your light in us, through us, over us. May we make a difference in this world, for your glory and purposes. Set your way before us. May all of your plans succeed. May we reflect your peace and hope to a world that so desperately needs your presence and healing.

To you be glory and honor, in this New Year, and forever.

In Jesus' name,
Amen.

citation:

<https://debbiemcdaniel.com>



GIVING

Mission & Outreach

Please remember that our church's missions & operational expenses require your support! You can *mail* in your donations anytime to the church at MUMC PO Box 144, Marshall, VA 20116; or simply leave gifts in the *offering plate* at services.

We routinely donate 10% of general funds received to local non-profit charitable organizations as we "*share God's gifts.*" Thanks to everyone's generosity in the congregation, we have a terrific impact in our community. Thanks for always being a generous church!! Read on for more details....

SGG - Sharing God's Gifts

Two batches of checks went out last month as MUMC spread holiday cheer, assistance, and giving before Christmas. Here's where our church aided our community and others:



July - September 2024 SGG Giving

- American Bible Society (for troops & veterans) \$235
- Fauquier Cops for Children (Christmas shop) \$300
- Fauquier SPCA (recent animal rescue cases) \$300
- Middleburg Humane Society (hurricane rescues) \$300
- MUMPS/Preschool \$300
- Potter's House (repairs) \$500
- Project Crossroads (Marion VA hurricane repairs) \$500
- Fauquier Chapter Salvation Army \$235
- Samaritan's Purse (Christian humanitarian aid) \$500

TOTAL: \$3,170

December 2024 SGG Giving

- American Foundation for Suicide Prevention \$300
- Fauquier Anti-Sex Trafficking Alliance \$300
- Fauquier Education Farm \$300
- Fauquier Habitat for Humanity \$300
- Fellowship Christian Athletes \$300
- FISH \$300
- Heartland Hospice \$300
- MUMC United Methodist Women - UMWif \$130
- Warrenton Pregnancy Center \$300
- Friends of the Library - Kids' Gum Drop Square \$200

TOTAL: \$2,730

PRAYER

If you have prayers to be shared outside of Sunday services, please direct them to:

Pastor John Rowe
at johnrowe@vaumc.org
or 703-357-5446;
and/or
prayers@marshallumc.org.

God blesses us to be a blessing to others.



PeterDeHaan.com

Serving in January

Worship Leaders:

- January 5 - Lisa Strahley
- January 12 - Bob Lambert
- January 19 - DeAnna Taylor
- January 26 - Christina Burnham

Communion Steward:

Terri Hill

Counters:

- January 5 - Laurie Bersack & Cheryl Kowalczyk
- January 12 - Debbie Machamer & Betty West
- January 19 - Terri Hill & Jeff Machamer
- January 26 - Wendy Emery & Bob Lambert



M.U.M.P.S. - Preschool Post



Holiday Highlights Recap!.....

- The Marshall Christmas parade was a great time, with Pastor PJ bear escorting our way!
- Our Toys-for-Tots collection was very well supported!
- The gingerbread building night was a blast!
- The students' Christmas program was phenomenal!
- Thanks to everyone who attends and supports each activity!!
- T-shirts & car magnet sales, sneaker donations... continue.
- Check out pictorial highlights from a wonderful season below...
- See everyone back on Tuesday 1/7/25 when preschool resumes.

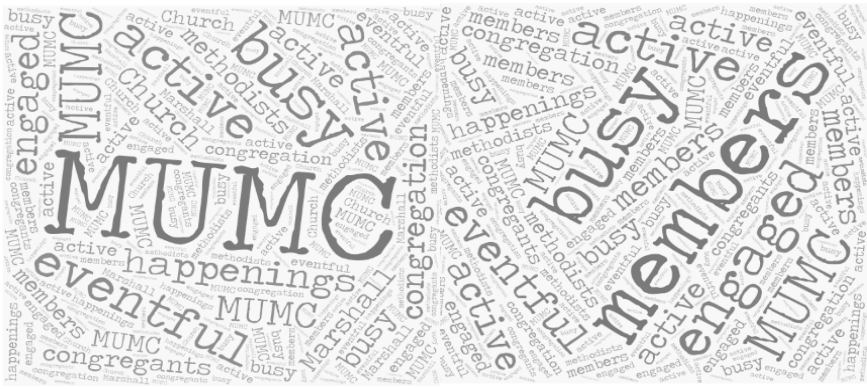


Warm Regards,

Kezia Glascock

Preschool Director





Super Seniors

The group had a lovely outing on December 12, 2024, at Patty O's Café in Little Washington.



Watch for more monthly plans to be made after a brief winter respite!

UMWiF

Happy New Year

to & from the **Marshall women's group!**

We ring in 2025 with a new UMW President, Lisa Strahley, and a new VP/vice-chair, Christine Burnham!

Please welcome them with your presence at monthly meetings (first Saturday of each month @9am) and bless them with your participation in activities, outings, missions, and events throughout the year to come.

"Marshall winter warm-up" is an upcoming event; so ladies (and everyone) can stock up on hats, scarves, ear warmers, and mittens etc (preferably homemade) to share around town on Sunday **1/26/25** after worship.

Despite PJ crashing the party, the women had a great time wrapping up last year with festive food, fellowship, and a fun gift exchange as seen below!!!!



Ladies, meet at the church this Saturday 1/4/25 at 9am to carpool to Cracker Barrel for a breakfast meeting as we begin our new year's activities.

January Celebrations

birthdays & anniversaries

- 3 – Paula Glascock
- 4 - Brian Quinn-Egeland
- 8 - Bradley Quinn-Egeland
- 10 - Colin Michael Fitzmaurice
- 11 – DeAnna Taylor
- 12 – Barbara Greene
- 13 – Wendy Emery
- 15 – Lisa Strahley
- 17 – Matthew Wyne
- 19 – Debbie Wyne
- 21 - James Swart
- 22 – Nancy Wright
- 22 – Alice Glascock
- 23 - Jean Egeland
- 25 – Phil Harris
- 30 – Rachel Taylor
- 31 – Erica (Emery) Peterman
- 31 – Shirley Glascock

As updates to our celebration rosters are constantly underway, please email any

FEBRUARY birthdays or anniversaries

you'd like posted next month to

admin@marshallumc.org.

2025 Marshall Leadership

Church Council Chair: TBD

Church Council Committee: Joe Bersack, Laurie Bersack, Doris Edmonds, Amy Glascock, Candy Glascock, Kezia Glascock, Cathy Harris, Terri Hill, Cheryl Kowalczyk, Debbie Machamer, Bill Snider, DeAnna Taylor, Pastor John

Lay Leaders: Joe Bersack, DeAnna Taylor

Lay Servants: Laurie Bersack, Terri Hill, Cheryl Kowalczyk, Amy Taylor

Lay Member to Annual Conference: Cheryl Kowalczyk

District Steward: Wendy Emery

SPRC Chair: TBD

SPRC Committee: Joe Bersack, Lisa Burnside, Cheryl Kowalczyk, Amy Taylor, DeAnna Taylor

Recording Secretary: Candy Glascock

Finance Committee: Debbie Machamer (chair), Joe Bersack, Amy Glascock, Terri Hill, Cheryl Kowalczyk, Bill Snider, DeAnna Taylor

Financial Secretary: Cheryl Kowalczyk

Treasurer: DeAnna Taylor

Trustee Chair: TBD

Trustee Committee: Kezia Glascock, Skip Glascock, Phil Harris, Bob Lambert

Worship Committee: Cathy Harris (chair), Candy Glascock, Terri Hill, Bob Lambert, Amy Taylor, DeAnna Taylor, Ruth Umbel, Pastor John

Senior Ministries & Memorials Co-Chairs: Doris Edmonds & Terri Hill

Children's Ministry: vacant

Christian Education Committee: DeAnna Taylor (chair), Joe Bersack, Laurie Bersack, Terri Hill, Cheryl Kowalczyk, Debbie Machamer, Bonnie Murphy, Rich Umbel, Pastor John

Family Life Ministry Committee: Kezia Glascock (chair), Candy Glascock, Pastor John

Mission Committee: Bill Snider (chair), Amy Glascock, Smokey Jacobs, Bob Lambert, Cathy Lambert, Frances Snider, Rich Umbel, Pastor John

Outreach: Laurie Bersack

Communications: Marti Church, Terri Hill, Pastor John

Nominations Committee: Pastor John (chair), Joe Bersack, Laurie Bersack, Christine Burnham, Bonnie Murphy, DeAnna Taylor, Marge VanDeman

Safe Sanctuaries: Terri Hill (chair), Pastor John

Technology Committee: Pastor John (chair), Bob Lambert, Cathy Lambert, Debbie Machamer, Amy Taylor, Rich Umbel

UMWIF: Lisa Strahley (Chair), Christine Burnham (vice-chair)

Serve.



OPEN
HEARTS.
OPEN
MINDS.
OPEN
DOORS.

location:
8405 West Main Street
Marshall VA 20115
mailing:
PO Box 144
Marshall VA 20116
contacts: 540-364-2506
admin@marshallumc.org

MARSHALL
UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH
• 9 - 10am
Sunday School
(Adults & Kids)
• 10 - 10:30am
Fellowship & Coffee Time
• 10:30 - 11:30am
WORSHIP SERVICE



Marshall United Methodist . Circuit Writer Newsletter . January 2025 Calendar

SUN 29	MON 30	TUE 31	WED Jan 1	THU 2	FRI 3	SAT 4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Sunday School (Adult&I 10am Fellowship/Coffee Tim 10:30am Worship Service 			<p>Happy New Year!</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm Monthly Luncheon 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Women's Meeting (carpool to Cracker Barrel)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Sunday School (Adult&I 10am Fellowship/Coffee Tim 10:30am Worship Service 12pm Youth Group 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30pm ESL BEGInners Clast 7:30pm Choir Practice 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30pm ESL INtermediate Cl 6:30pm BOOK CLUB Mtg 6:30pm MUMPS Board Mtg 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Sunday School (Adult&I 10am Fellowship/Coffee Tim 10:30am Worship Service 12pm Youth Group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:45pm HOA mtg 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30pm ESL BEGInners Clast 7:30pm Choir Practice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm WEEKLY Bible Study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30pm ESL INtermediate Cl 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am to noon MUMC Planning
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Sunday School (Adult&I 10am Fellowship/Coffee Tim 10:30am Worship Service 12pm Potluck Church Lunch 12pm Youth Group 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30pm ESL BEGInners Clast 7:30pm Choir Practice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm WEEKLY Bible Study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30pm ESL INtermediate Cl 7pm Finance & Council Mtgs 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Sunday School (Adult&I 10am Fellowship/Coffee Tim 10:30am Worship Service 12pm Youth Group 12pm WARM UP Marshall Event 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30pm ESL BEGInners Clast 7:30pm Choir Practice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm WEEKLY Bible Study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30pm ESL INtermediate Cl 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Women's Meeting