



TO KNOW CHRIST, TO GROW IN CHRIST, TO GO SERVE CHRIST

# JANUARY

Medicine Lodge United Methodist Church **2015**

## Biblical Suggestions for The New Year

*“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new”* **Corinthians 5:17 (NKJV)**.

Now I don’t know about you but when I look into a mirror, I don’t see the “new creation.” I see the face of a man ravaged by ulcerated colitis and now ravaged by having his colon removed. I see a tired 69 year old man who has the same problems today, as I had yesterday. God needs to give me a new set of eyes, a new brain, and a new heart. Now here’s the catch. He’s already done it. I just need to cooperate with Him. I need to look at myself with the eyes of His love and not my own “human understanding eyes.”

*“Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean. Your filth will be washed away, and you will no longer worship idols. And I will give you a new heart with new and right desires, and I will put a new spirit in you. I will take out your stony heart of sin and give you a new, obedient heart. And I will put my Spirit in you so you will obey my laws and do whatever I command”* **Ezekiel 36:25-27 (NLT)**.

Notice, it is God who is doing all the doing. It is the power of the “Almighty” that is able to accomplish what we absolutely cannot. We must, however, let go, and let God do the work that He desires to do in us.

*“No, dear brothers and sisters, I am still not all I should be, but I am focusing all my energies on*

*this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, I strain to reach the end of the race and receive the prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us up to heaven”* **Philippians 3:13-14 (NLT)**.

Notice, Paul does not say that it will be easy. But rather that he “strains” to reach the end of the race. He works at his faith. He “strains” to finish the race well. If you’ve ever run in a physical race, you already know that it takes effort to finish, it takes more effort to “win.” Here’s the “killer question.” Do we want to win?

*“Our fathers disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, that we may share in his holiness. No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it”* **Hebrews 12:10-11 (NIV)**.

This idea of “sharing in the holiness of God” blows me away. Really God, I can share in Your perfection? Perhaps knowing what I now know, I can begin to look in a mirror and see God working in me and on me!

*Be still in the presence of the LORD, and wait patiently for him to act. Don't worry about evil people who prosper or fret about their wicked schemes”* **Psalms 37:7 (NLT)**.

Here in this Psalm, we are made aware of the need of being in God’s presence. And, I am reminded that the Bible tells us in

Matthew 18:20 “For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them” (KJV). So when we gather in His name in church, in a small group, or just two praying together – God is there with us. We don’t need a Guru, a minister, or a small group leader. We just need God.

*In Isaiah 40:31(NASB) we read, “Yet those who wait for the LORD will gain new strength; they will mount up with wings like eagles, they will run and not get tired, they will walk and not become weary.”* I don’t know about you, but even when I was in “excellent health,” I became weary. Weary of the “bills,” of people not living at peace with one another, of simply walking up a flight of stairs! And yet, I remember as well, God renewing my strength, inspiring me to deliver sermons, and not giving up on difficult people.

I pray that these Scriptures will give us all inspiration to live a life holy and acceptable to God!

*Pastor Dale Thiele*

A special note of thanks for all of you who have sent cards and letters, made phone calls, and come by the parsonage to visit. Also, a thank you for those who brought food over when three of my daughters came for a visit. Thanks to all who have prayed for Connie’s and my health and recovery. You are greatly appreciated!

# THANK YOU!

## Thank You!

- 👉 Kelly Stockwell for repairing the toilet in the ladies restroom
- 👉 Ron Phipps & Tom Lee for setting up the Nativity
- 👉 Tom & Sue Lee for putting chairs around tables for Jesus' birthday party
- 👉 Jr Hi & Sr Hi MYF & several others who helped put way tables & chairs after the UMW soup supper
- 👉 Randy & Kyle Wampler for setting out & lighting the luminaries for Christmas Eve
- 👉 Ron Phipps for taking down the Nativity
- 👉 Cindy Christensen for taking down the Advent wreath

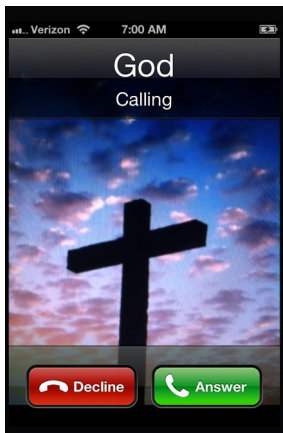
Thank you to my church family for being so generous at Christmas. I appreciate all you do for me at Christmas and throughout the year.

Love -  
Cheryl

UMC Family -

Thank you for your generosity at Christmas and the many acts of kindness during the year. I feel blessed to have such a caring church family. You are all truly appreciated.

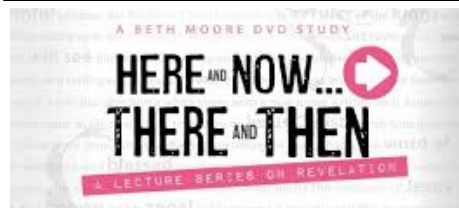
Love -  
Sharla



Is God calling you in a new direction? Consider the Education Director position for your church! For more information talk to Brenda Dirks or Melea Oxley.

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 4 - John Fisher, Kay Burns, Kasey Swayden
- 6 - Dakota Lonker, Brett Christensen
- 8 - Ryatt Wheelock
- 9 - Danny Ferguson, Megan Colson
- 12 - Shaunnessey Platt, Martha Castle
- 13 - Bill Kolb
- 14 - Suellen Brayan, Coleman Packard
- 15 - Landon Brittain, David Dubbs
- 18 - Terry Weeks
- 20 - Todd Stone, Tanner Wedel, Luke Fisher
- 21 - Tom Bedwell, Linda McCain
- 22 - Bob Christensen, Dallas Lawrence, Ruth Rodgers
- 23 - Casey Long Ward
- 24 - John Kirkbride
- 25 - Mary Lou Hinz
- 26 - Barbara Hawkins
- 27 - Betty Jo Swayden
- 30 - Tim Chance, Carol Gerstner, Robert Keefer



Beth Moore  
Revelation Lecture Series  
Tuesdays @ 6:30 pm  
UMC Library

It's not too late to come join in.  
We will be watching the 1st session  
January 6 when we meet again.



The Worship Committee met and determined the best way to revamp the Usher, Greeter & Acolyte list is to have people sign up. There is a clipboard in the office where you can add your name to the list on the months you would like to serve the church by assisting with worship. We are also adding readers and Children's time volunteers, as well. May you be blessed by serving the church.



## UMW NEWS

UMW Call to Prayer & Self-Denial Wednesday,  
Jan. 14 @ 12 Noon

### Faith Circle

Monday, January 12 @ 7:00 pm  
Hostess: Sue Lee  
Co-Hostess: Laura Johnson  
Devotions: Mary Lou Hinz  
Program: Cindy Christensen

**Mary Martha Circle**  
Wednesday, January 28  
2 pm @ The UMC

Hostess: Linda Suhler  
Program: Barbara Hawkins

### New Year's Promises

For I know that nothing good wells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. ([Romans 7:18](#)) ESV

It's the start of a new year and gyms all across America will see a spike in new memberships. Why? New Year's resolutions. Nearly every top ten list includes the following resolutions: getting in shape, losing weight, or quitting smoking. Unfortunately, most of these resolutions don't last. Just wait until mid-February and you'll have a much easier time finding a parking space at the gym. We can do the same thing as we follow Jesus. We can make big promises about the great things we plan to do for Him. We can try to impress Him with our performance. In the process we can forget two important facts:

1. God's love for us is dependent on His grace and not our performance. Scripture makes this very clear in [Romans 5:8](#)- God demonstrates his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. God's love for us was settled by Jesus' sacrifice on the cross.
2. This life is not about what we can do for God, but what He can do in and through us. God does not need us (see [Acts 17:25](#)), but He still desires to use imperfect instruments like us to accomplish His God-sized purposes.

# January

## Sunday Schedule

- 9:30 am - Worship
  - 10:45 am - Fellowship Time
  - 11:00 am - Sunday School
  - 12 noon - Covered Dish Dinner
- (1st Sunday of the month)

## Wednesday Schedule

- 3:50 pm - 5:15 pm  
Extreme Kids Club
- 7:00 pm - Jr & Sr High MYF

## Ushers


9:30 am

## Greeters

9:30 am

## Acolytes

9:30 am

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Church Closed 		
4 Covered Dish Dinner	5 10 am Food Bank	6 6:30 pm - Beth Moore Revelation Study	7 Reg Wed Act. Youth Skate @ Pratt	8	9	10
11	12 10 am Food Bank	13 6:30 pm - Beth Moore Revelation Study	14 Reg Wed Act.	15	16	17
18	19 10 am Food Bank	20 6:30 pm - Beth Moore Revelation Study	21 Reg Wed Act.	22	23	24
25	26 10 am Food Bank	27 6:30 pm - Beth Moore Revelation Study	28 Reg Wed Act.	29	30	31







**United Methodist Church**  
**108 E. Second**  
**Medicine Lodge, KS 67104**

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**THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**www.umcmedicinelodge.com**

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**Custodian**

Cheryl Wampler



Natasha Florian  
 James Guy  
 Rodney VanRanken  
 John Ordonio  
 Blazer Walker

Brian Larsen, Marilyn Fox's son  
 Spencer Wartman, Lee's grandson

**2014 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS**

**Adm. Co**-Tom Bedwell 886-5226

**Congregational Care**

Mary Lou Hinz 886-3558  
 Ron & Judy Phipps 739-4722

**Education** -Andrea Fisher 930-2049

**Endowment**-David Oxley 886-5783

**Evangelism**-Dean Stucky 886-3485  
 Lesley Hill

**Hospitality**-Emerald Bedwell 886-5320  
 Anita Bedwell 247-6234

**Lay Leader** John Platt

Dean Stucky 886-3485

**Lay Leadership**-Dale Thiele 886-5989

**Memorial -**

**Missions -** Jamie Phipps -

**Scholarship**-Bob Packard 886-3006

**SPRC Relations -** Melea Oxley 886-5783  
 Brenda Dirks 886-5130

**Stew/Finance-** Dale Lonker 886-3311  
 Brandon Phipps

**History & Archives -**

**Worship/Music & Arts -**

**Trustees -** Tom Lee 930-2072  
 Jed Hill

**Childcare Facilities-**

**Weekly Schedule**

**Sunday Schedule**

Worship	9:30 am
Fellowship Time	10:45 am
Sunday School	11:00 am
Covered Dish Dinner (1st Sunday of the month)	11:45 pm

**Monday Schedule**

Food Bank	10:00 am
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**Tuesday Schedule**

Beth Moore Revelation Study	6:30 pm
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**Wednesday Schedule**

Extreme Kids Club	3:50 pm
Jr MYF	7:00 pm
Sr MYF	7:00 pm

