



Sheridan First United Methodist Church

CHIME NOTES

JANUARY 2018

Volume LVIII, Issue i



Read: Joshua 1:1-9 "Do Not Be Discouraged"

Happy New Year! Wow! 2018 is here!!! It seems like everyone I meet greets me with a cheerful "Have a Happy and prosperous New Year!" It is really nice to see so many people begin 2018 with a happy heart. However, we need more than a hopeful greeting from the people around us as we step into this new year of "uncertainty." The reality is that life is full of uncertainties...we have no clue what this new year will bring to us, our loved ones, or our church family.

Do you remember the story of Joshua and how he led the Israelites into the Promised Land after Moses died in the wilderness? We need to take to heart what God told Joshua over 3,400 years ago. You see, Joshua was facing great uncertainty, he was now walking in Moses' shoes, which were pretty big shoes to fill for Joshua or anyone else for that matter. I am sure that he was fearful, questioning his own abilities, wondering if he would be able to accomplish the task he was given...wondering what his life would be like leading the Israelites. After all, they had given Moses a really hard time.

God knew what was going on in Joshua's head and heart. It is so easy for fear to take over when one is faced with such an enormous task and with such little experience. Joshua was well aware of the dangers that he and the people would soon be facing. He needed God's encouragement. Listen to how God encourages Joshua as he faces this mountainous task before him. God says, "No one will be able to stand against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you, I will never leave you nor forsake you." God continues and tells Joshua, "Be strong and courageous..." (He actually tells him that several times.) Then he says to Joshua, "Do not be afraid. And then God tells him again, "for the Lord you God will be with you wherever you go." God encourages Joshua by telling him that he will always be with him.

God then gives Joshua the key to being successful. All he needs to do is to be careful to obey all the laws that Moses had given him...being careful to do everything written in it. How was Joshua to do that? God tells him to keep the Book of the Law always on his lips, and to meditate on it day and night... "Then," says God, "You will be prosperous and successful." Simply put, Joshua had to give God first place in his life...always making choices that would be pleasing to God.

Joshua needed God's encouragement for the new task before him. We too need God's encouragement. A new year brings a lot of questions to us. Will my health hold out? Will my marriage last? Will I be able to hang on to my job? Will I get into the right school? Will I be able to care for my family and meet their needs? Will I live to see the end of the year? Will the economy improve? Will there be a natural disaster or a terrorist attack that will take me or my family? Our heavenly Father comes to us with the same words of encouragement... Do not be afraid...do not be discouraged... Remember, Jesus said, "I am with you always." You see, God does not leave our lives to chance, so no matter what happens God is in charge and he promises to stay close to us. The Lord our God will be with you wherever you go.

And if we want to have a prosperous and happy new year then we too should do as God told Joshua: Keep God's Word...keep his laws and commands... write them on our hearts, and always have them on our lips, and never turn from them...no matter what we face in this new year. May your New Year be both Happy and Prosperous!

Remember, God is with you!

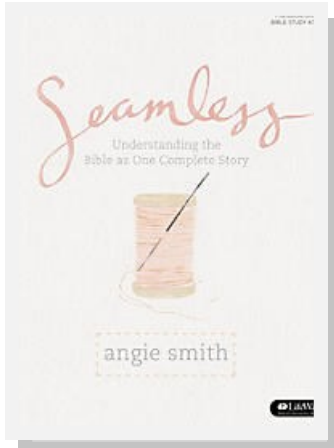
Thank You !!!

A special thank you to the congregation for the generous Christmas gift. I appreciate your thoughtfulness and generosity in celebration of the birth of our Savior, the greatest gift! Thank you for your love and support, and may the Lord bless you as you have blessed me. God Bless, Valri

Thank you for the Christmas gift! We love serving this church family.
Sincerely, Ralph & Linda Stephenson

Thank you for the Christmas gift. It was unexpected. I'm thankful to serve this church family. I hope you had a great Christmas!
Have a Blessed day, Cindy

Education News



NEW WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY SEAMLESS BY ANGIE SMITH BEGINNING WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10

Whether you've grown up hearing the Bible or you're exploring Scriptures for the first time, the full story of the Bible can be overwhelming. The 66 books may seem disconnected at first glance. In this study, Angie Smith shows you how the whole Bible from —from Genesis to Revelation—connects as one beautiful, seamless thread. In this study, you will:

- Understand the Bible as a whole as you change the way you look at Scripture;
- Connect with the people, places, and promises of God's Word in a fresh way;
- Gain clarity and confidence in your understanding of Scripture,
- Discover a biblical context that reshapes and brings to life stories from the Old and New Testaments.



A ROCKIN' ROYAL CHRISTMAS

The children did fantastic at their performance of A Rockin' Royal Christmas on December 10. These pictures are from the rehearsal prior to the program.



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

Sharing a few pictures from the fun the children had at their Christmas Party on the afternoon of December 10.



A visit from Santa and making Christmas trees from ice cream cones!



Sled races and cookie decorating!



Ho Ho Ho and a little elf!



ENRICHMENT & CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

Making angels,
learning about Jesus'
birth, and learning
about what our gift
to Jesus would be.



EDUCATION—MISCELLANEOUS



A few pictures from our last Women's Bible Study — The Greatest Gift. We did Jesse Trees and then made an ornament each week along with our lesson.



NEEDED VBS DIRECTOR FOR 2018

We are looking for a volunteer to be director of our VBS Program this summer. Our plans are to do an afternoon/evening event like last year. Please consider this opportunity to serve our Lord and help grow our children. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Carol at 317-626-9312 or Brenda Davis at 317-752-0965.

LEARN AND PLAY PRESCHOOL CHRISTMAS PARTY (continued)



And Santa left us some presents!



Those of us who work with these kids, are truly blessed! God is good!

LEARN AND PLAY PRESCHOOL — CHRISTMAS LEARNING



Making patterns



Sensory Learning with shaving cream



Learning out name while making a Christmas tree.



Making pretend Christmas cookies



Following directions to make an angel and Santa



LEARN AND PLAY CHRISTMAS PARTY



Jingle Bells
with our
musical
instruments



Santa's New
Suit is a fun-
ny story, Mrs.
Good!



A visit from Santa. He showed us some of his magic!



LEARN AND PLAY PRESCHOOL CHRISTMAS PARTY (continued)



And Santa left us some presents!



Those of us who work with these kids, are truly blessed! God is good!



Happy Anniversary

Tim and Melanie Bales 1/13

Larry Eidson Jr.	1/2
Judy Vanmeter	1/4
Melanie Bales	1/8
Julia Neff	1/8
Faith DeVaney	1/9
Connie Pearson	1/12
Nikki Davis	1/15
Dale McCullough	1/17
Norman Wagoner	1/19
Elizabeth Bensen	1/24
Pam Pickard	1/26
Patrick Weitzel	1/26

Sunflower items needed for January



Mouthwash
Paper towel
Shampoo
Sponge & scouring pads

Mark Blessing
Kate Pickett
5029 Skipping Stone Drive
Indianapolis, IN 46237

Mary Walker
925 West 236th St.
Sheridan, In 46069

Mary Grace Pickett
Room 132
334 S. Cherry St
Westfield, IN 46075

Tresa Ann Waitt
334 S. Cherry St.
Apt. 230
Westfield, In 46074

Helen Pickard
22398 Mulebarn Road
Sheridan, In 46069

James Authur
Apt. 102
334 S. Cherry Street
Westfield, In 46074

Melba Stephenson
22490 Mulebarn Rd.
Sheridan, In 46069

LeeAnn Bridwell
305 S. Georgia St.
Sheridan, In 46069

Renata Ridge
1853 West State Road 38
Sheridan, IN 46069



Room 118
803 S. Hamilton Ave
Sheridan, In 46069

William Oberthur
Room 12
1667 Sheridan Rd.
Noblesville, In 46062

Mary Anne Ogle
Room 19
1667 Sheridan Rd.
Noblesville, In 46062

JANUARY 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Happy New Year!	2 Lunch Club 11:30-1:00 Sunflower Pantry 1:00-3:00p.m.	3 Lunch Club 11:30-1:00 Summer's Baby Shower 6:00-8:00p.m.	4 Lunch Club 11:30-1:00p.m.	5 Lunch Club 11:30-1:00	6
7 8:30a.m. Worship 9:00a.m. Church School 10:00a.m. Worship	8 Church Council 7:00p.m.	9 Lydia Circle 1:30p.m. Greenhouse Board Mt. 7:00p.m.	10 Bible Studies 6:00-7:00p.m. Choir 7:00p.m.	11 Learn & Play Preschool 10:00a.m. Lunch Club 12:00p.m.	12	13 UMM Breakfast 7:30a.m.
14 8:30a.m. Worship 9:00 a.m. Church School 10:00 a.m. Worship	15 Trustee Mt. 7:00p.m.	16 Sunflower Pantry 1:00-3:00p.m.	17 Bible Studies 6:00-7:00p.m. Choir 7:00p.m.	18 Learn & Play Pre-school 10:00a.m. Lunch Club 12:00p.m. Koinonia 7:00p.m.	19	20
21 8:30a.m. Worship 9:00a.m. Church School 10:00 Worship	22	23	24 Bible Studies 6:00-7:00p.m. Choir 7:00p.m.	25 Learn & Play Preschool 10:00a.m. Lunch Club 12:00p.m.	26	27
28 8:30a.m. Worship 9:00a.m. Church School 10:00 a.m. Worship	29	30 Finance Mt. 7:30p.m.	31 Bible Studies 6:00-7:00p.m. Choir 7:00p.m.			