



# Faith Calls

## *A Way Forward*

***The following is a message and information from  
Bishop Tracy Malone, Bishop of the East Ohio Conference, United Methodist Church***

I believe, and am convinced, that we can find a Way Forward that will keep the unity of The United Methodist Church if we fully embrace this call to conduct ourselves with all humility, gentleness, and patience; accepting each other with love; and making an effort to preserve the unity of the Spirit with the peace that ties us together. I continue to proclaim what I have said before: finding a Way Forward is all of our work to do and all of our commitments to make.

As a witness to our love for and commitment to Jesus Christ, and the proclamation of the Gospel and our love for our beloved United Methodist Church, we are called to be steadfast in faith and figure out how to stay together in a way that allows for and embraces our convictions and differences. By God's grace, and with humility, we can do this! Not for our personal sake but for the sake of the Kingdom of God and our United Methodist mission and witness. This is a holy and sacred work. It's all of our work to do ... all of our commitments to make.

### **Mission**

The Commission will bring together persons deeply committed to the future(s) of The United Methodist Church, with an openness to developing new relationships with each other and exploring the potential future(s) of our denomination in light of General Conference and subsequent annual, jurisdictional and central conference actions. We have a profound hope and confidence in the Triune God, and yet we acknowledge that we do this work in a climate of skepticism and distrust, from a human point of view. We are a connection, and we admit that our communion is strained; yet much transformative mission across our world is the fruit of our collaboration. The matters of human sexuality and unity are the presenting issues for a deeper conversation that surfaces different ways of interpreting Scripture and theological tradition. The work is meant to inform deliberation across the whole church and to help the Council of Bishops in their service to the next General Conference in finding a way forward.

### **Vision**

The Commission will design a way for being church that maximizes the presence of a United Methodist witness in as many places in the world as possible, that allows for as much contextual differentiation as possible, and that balances an approach to different theological understandings of human sexuality with a desire for as much unity as possible. This unity will not be grounded in our conceptions of human sexuality, but in our affirmation of the Triune God who calls us to be a grace-filled and holy people in the Wesleyan tradition.

### **Scope**

We should be open to new ways of embodying unity that move us beyond where we are in the present impasse and cycle of action and reaction around ministry and human sexuality. Therefore, we should consider new ways of being in relationship across cultures and jurisdictions, in understandings of episcopacy, in contextual definitions of autonomy for annual conferences, and in the design and purpose of the apportionment. In reflection on the two matters of unity and human sexuality, we will fulfill our directive by considering "new forms and structures" of relationship and through the "complete examination and possible revision" of relevant paragraphs in the Book of Discipline. We will give consideration to greater freedom and flexibility to a future United Methodist Church that will redefine our present connectionality, which is showing signs of brokenness. If we ignore this work, fracturing will occur in more haphazard and even self-interested ways across the church. If we do this work only to address our preferences and self-interest, we will fail to place our complete trust in God's steadfast love and faithfulness. If we do this work with complete surrender to God's unlimited imagination and kingdom purposes, we will be blessed beyond our limited human imagination. God remains God; God is with us; God will never let us go. To God be the glory!

Peace,

*Pastor Brady*



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

**The people of The United Methodist Church™**

# COVENANT Bible Study to Resume

The second segment of Covenant Bible Study classes, led by Pastor Brady, will resume on Tuesday, January 15th, 2019, and will meet in the Wesley Room each Tuesday at 7:00 pm through March 5th. Study Guides will be provided for all those attending the classes. Plan to join us as we continue our journey.

**...all are welcome.**

**...you'll be heard.**

**...a deeper understanding awaits.**

COVENANT is an in-depth group Bible Study in which participants read and discuss the Bible together, learning how to love God—and each other—better.

The 24-week experience covers all the books of the Bible as participants move back and forth from Old Testament to New Testament. Covenant Bible Study shows the interconnectedness of scripture while demonstrating how the covenant relationship between God and people is woven through the entire Bible.

Covenant represents a relationship—a living, breathing conversation.

And we invite you to join in it.

Each eight-week segment explores a different aspect of Covenant life. Each will examine what Covenant means, and the progression of a Covenant relationship with God. Classes will meet Tuesdays, 7-8 pm in the Wesley Room of the church.



In December we baked cookies and made treats for goodie bags to be delivered to the people we caroled and visited. We also had our annual New Year's Eve Overnighter at the church filled with crazy fun games and fantastic food, fun, and entertainment!

The annual mid-winter retreat to Camp Asbury in Hiram is Friday, January 18 to Sunday, January 20. This is always the favorite event of the year for the kids. Any student in grades 6-12 is welcome to come along. Just let one of the leaders know! Cost is \$75 a person, \$65 a person for 2 in a family.

Like card games? Catching up with your friends? Snacks? Friends are ALWAYS welcome! The more the merrier! So, if you have a friend or two you'd like to bring along to a meeting or fun activity, go ahead!

*"Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity." I TIMOTHY 4:12*

**MYF Mission Statement** ✎ TO EQUIP TEENS TO LIVE AS CHRISTIANS IN THE REAL WORLD

**Questions? Comments? Suggestions?**

Contact Dave and Kris Loughley at 330-571-2850 or [dloughley@aol.com](mailto:dloughley@aol.com), [kloughley@aol.com](mailto:kloughley@aol.com).

## January Schedule

Sunday, January 6 Regular Meeting

Sunday, January 13 Regular Meeting

Friday, January 18—Sunday, January 20 ~ Mid-Winter retreat at Camp Asbury

Sunday, January 27 Regular Meeting

## Administrative Council Update

It is a new year and we will be installing new officers for all of our committees in January during church services. We are going to celebrate, but not until February. Our first Administrative Council meeting will be **February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 7pm.**

All are invited. If you have questions, suggestions, or would like to help plan our celebration, please contact Theresa Johnson at 330-405-1588 or [FaithAdboard@gmail.com](mailto:FaithAdboard@gmail.com).



## Monthly Birthday Celebration January 20<sup>th</sup>



Do you have a birthday in January? If you do, tell us quickly at **330-425-2565**. We want your name on our cake. We want to celebrate you.

Birthdays are about family. Come and celebrate your January birthday with your church family. We will celebrate in the middle of the month on **January 20<sup>th</sup>** after second service.

If you would like to help, please contact Lee Reynolds at [FUMClayLeader@gmail.com](mailto:FUMClayLeader@gmail.com) or Gary Todd at 330-425-9745.

## January Coupons

It is a new year. Make a resolution to save as much money as you can. It is not easy to save money, but every little bit helps. We can help. Take as many coupons as you can use. (You can also give some to your friends.)

Join us **Thursday, January 31<sup>st</sup>** to update our board for February. We will meet from **1pm to 3pm**. If you can't make it and are looking for something special (ie: Luv's diapers) just let us know. We take requests.

For more information, contact Theresa Johnson at [TheresaMJohnson@msn.com](mailto:TheresaMJohnson@msn.com) or 330.405.1588.

We look forward to seeing you.

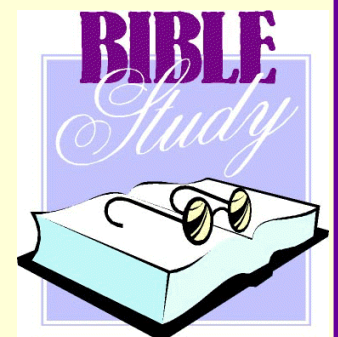


## Sunday Evening Bible Study

The Sunday Evening Bible Study Group will be resuming on Sunday, January 6<sup>th</sup>. We will be beginning the new year with a study of First & Second Timothy. These are Paul's two letters to his protégé, Timothy. Timothy was a young man the Paul had assigned to oversee the Church in Ephesus. Paul's letters were to encourage him and to lay out the guidelines as to qualities that church leaders need to possess.

We encourage you to plan on attending this new study. We will be meeting in the Wesley Room at 6:00 pm on Sunday evenings we hope that we will see you there.

Please contact Gary or Deb Todd if you have any questions or want more information regarding this study.





# The New Year



*Dear Lord, as this new year is born  
I give it to Thy hand,  
Content to walk by faith what paths  
I cannot understand.*

*Whatever coming days may bring  
Of bitter loss, or gain,  
Or every crown of happiness;  
Should sorrow come, or pain,*

*Or, Lord, if all unknown to me  
Thine angel hovers near  
To bear me to that farther shore  
Before another year,*

*It matters not – my hand in Thine,  
Thy light upon my face,  
Thy boundless strength when I am weak,  
Thy love and saving grace!*

*I only ask, loose not my hand,  
Grip fast my soul, and be  
My guiding light upon the path  
Till, blind no more, I see!*

*--Martha Snell Nicholson*



## Friday Night at the Movies

presents

# PRICELESS

Friday, January 11th ~ 7:00 pm

Fellowship Hall



James has a problem with wrong turns. As in, he's taken too doggone many of them. And if you were to ask him, he'd certainly say that he considered himself to be a good man on the right track at one point in his life. But that was before the death of his wife, Melody.

She was something special, you see. She lifted him up. She made him try harder. Made him better. Between her and their young daughter, Emmy, James considered himself to be about as blessed as a guy could be back

then. But when Melody passed, he had a hard time just coping. Keeping up. Even keeping a job. By the time social services stepped in to say Emmy had to be taken in by James' mother or be put in the foster care system, well, he didn't know which way was up ... or down, or left or right.

So when James gets the offer to make some good money just driving a box truck across the country, he takes it. He needs the cash. The guys who give him the keys stress that he simply needs to stay behind the wheel, keep the truck locked up *and* keep his questions to himself. And that's just dandy by James. Until, that is, he dozes off, runs off the road and hears ... a *girl* yell out from the back of the truck.

Now, James knows he should just ignore that tiny cry. He should just turn on the radio, get back on the road. But there's this tiny *voice* in his head that makes that tiny cry just too much to dismiss.

Because at his core, James is still *something* of a good man. Melody and Emmy had burned that hot iron of truth into his heart with the smelting furnace heat of their love. So he feels compelled to grab a tire iron and knock the lock off the truck's back door. And there she, or rather, *they* are: two young sisters who apparently don't speak English, clinging desperately to each other and looking at him with eyes full of fear.

"What are you gonna do now, smart guy?" he wonders as he squats, looking at the women in the rear of that truck. But the truth is, James has already made a decision. Perhaps made yet another ill-advised turn.

Or maybe, just maybe, for the first time in a long time, he's made the *right* one.

*We encourage you to invite your friends and neighbors to join us to watch this film. The movie is free and pizza, snacks and refreshments will be provided. HOPE TO SEE YOU AT THE MOVIES!*

## MYF in Pictures ~ Cookies, Cookies!!





Alyssa Dennewitz ~ 2	James Mueller ~ 7
John Peters ~ 2	Carol Stover ~ 9
Maritza Lawler 4	Rita Desai ~ 22
Avery Ann Schmida ~ 4	Jordan Movens ~ 23
Jean Brower ~ 5	Bob Denges ~ 24
Spencer Hopkins ~ 5	Carol Strong ~ 25
Scott Straw ~ 5	Bill Comeaux ~ 26
Joel Saver ~ 6	Ron Strong ~ 26
Curtis Brown ~ 7	Lenora Matthews ~ 27
Shayna Movens ~ 7	Jeanette Hyatt ~ 30

Bob & Lynn Denges ~ 3  
Scott & Lisa Straw ~ 17



## Movie Night Schedule

Once a month we present a movie on a Friday night in Fellowship Hall. Each of these movies has a message that can open a heart and change a life. The movies are shown in Fellowship Hall and start at 7:00 pm. Below are the movies that we will be showing for the next seven months.

Friday, January 11 <sup>th</sup>	Priceless
Friday, February 15 <sup>th</sup>	An Interview with God
Friday, March 15 <sup>th</sup>	The Prayer Box
Friday, April 5 <sup>th</sup>	The Fourth Wise Man
Friday, May 10 <sup>th</sup>	Unbroken- Path to Redemption
Friday, June 14 <sup>th</sup>	Paul, Apostle of Christ
Friday, July 12 <sup>th</sup>	God Bless the Broken Road



We encourage you to come and to invite others to see these wonderful films of faith and encouragement. The movies are free and pizza, snacks and refreshments will be provided.

Please contact Gary and Deb Todd if you have any questions about this event. *Hope to see you at the movies.*



## Communion Stewards for Second Service

On the first Sunday of every month we celebrate Communion as part of our Worship Service. This is not only a time to remember what Christ did for us, but a time to be in communion with Him and the Body of Christ. The contemporary service at 11:00 a.m. not only gives you the opportunity to receive Communion but also the opportunity to be a Communion Steward and assist with serving Communion. If you are interested in serving as a Communion Steward and have not previously signed up, please contact Gary Todd.

Following is a list of the Communion Stewards for the next ten months.

<u>SUNDAY</u>	<u>NAMES</u>	<u>SUNDAY</u>	<u>NAME</u>
01/06/19	TOM PROROK & DEB TODD	02/03/19	DELANEY RUSH & SARA STRAW
03/03/19	MYRTLE HAWKS & TRISHA ZONA	04/07/19	MATTHEW & ANNIE ZELLNER
05/05/19	BOB & LYNN DENGES	06/02/19	KEN & PATTY KEMPF
07/07/19	GREG & LENORA MATTHEWS	08/04/19	MIKE & TRACY SHAUB
09/01/19	GERALD & SYLVIA GUNN	10/06/19	ANDREA & REBECCA PETERS

\*Please advise Gary Todd if you are not available on the week scheduled.





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div> <div>FH = Fellowship Hall</div> <div>WR = Wesley Room</div> <div>GR = Grace Room</div> <div>Sanc = Sanctuary</div> </div>		<b>1</b> <span>New Year's Day</span> 6:30p AA/GR	<b>2</b> 6:45p Women's Prayer/WR	<b>3</b> 7:00p Praise Team	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 8:00a Men's Prayer
<b>6</b> 9/11:00a Worship & Communion 6:00p Bible Study 6:00p MYF	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 6:30p AA/GR 6:30p Boy Scouts/FH	<b>9</b> 6:45p Women's Prayer/WR	<b>10</b> 7:00p Praise Team	<b>11</b> 7:00p Friday Night at the Movies (Priceless)	<b>12</b> 8:00a Men's Prayer
<b>13</b> 9/11:00a Worship 6:00p Bible Study 6:00p MYF	<b>14</b> 5:00p Trustees Comm 6:30p Music Practice	<b>15</b> 6:30p AA/GR 6:30p Boy Scouts/FH 7:00p Pastor's Bible Study/WR	<b>16</b> 6:00p Girl Scouts/FH 6:30p SPRC Mtg 6:30p Boy Scouts/FH 6:45p Women's Prayer/WR	<b>17</b> 6:00p Girl Scouts/FH 7:00p Praise Team	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 8:00a Men's Prayer
<b>20</b> 9/11:00a Worship 6:00p Bible Study	<b>21</b> <span>Martin Luther King Day</span>	<b>22</b> 6:30p AA/GR 6:30p Boy Scouts/FH 7:00p Pastor's Bible Study/WR	<b>23</b> 6:30p Boy Scouts/FH 6:45p Women's Prayer/WR	<b>24</b> 6:00p Girl Scouts/FH 7:00p Praise Team	Jan 18-20 MYF/Asbury Retreat <b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 8:00a Men's Prayer 2:00p Pvt Event/FH
MYF Asbury Retreat <b>27</b> 9/11:00a Worship 6:00p Bible Study 6:00p MYF	<b>28</b> 6:30p Music Practice 7:00p Finance Comm	<b>29</b> 6:30p AA/GR 6:30p Boy Scouts/FH 7:00p Pastor's Bible Study/WR	<b>30</b> 6:45p Women's Prayer/WR	<b>31</b> 1:00p Coupon Clipping 7:00p Praise Team		

**\*\* February 17th — Deadline for submission of articles for the February Newsletter**

*Faith United Methodist Church*  
*2560 Post Road*  
*Twinsburg, Ohio 44087*



*January 2019*

*Faith United Methodist Church*  
*"Centered in Jesus Christ – Reaching out in Love"*

*Worship Services*

*Traditional 9:00 am*

*Contemporary 11:00 am*

*Christian Education*

*(September thru May) 10:10 am & 11:10*

*Staffed Nursery: 8:45 am–12:00 pm*



*am*