



# FUMC NEWS

DEVINE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



VOLUME 1.2021



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## **\* Pastor's Perspective \***

Happy New Year!

I pray God's blessings to you and your family.

Last year we faced many, many challenges and through the grace of God, we came through them. The church has remained faithful. I give thanks for each and every one of you and the blessings you brought to this congregation and the community of Devine. Thank-you all for hanging in there though the worship changes and challenges of 2020. Thank-you for your patience in the slow but sure reopening of the church. Thank-you for waiting for some things to begin, like our children and youth ministries as well as choir and UMW. Thank-you for being supportive and patient and understanding.

Amid these challenges, I saw the beauty of Christ among you. On Children's Sabbath, I saw the promise of God's future in the eyes of parents and in the voices of their children.

At All Saints, we remembered those who have built the foundations of faith for us and we were reminded that we, in turn, will build the foundations of faith for our children and grandchildren. I saw you express your faith through Christian service by ringing the Salvation Army Bell or through Operation Christian love, where you packing backpacks, gave your resources of time and money to help the orphans, homeless and the aged. I prayed with you and listened to your greatest joys and felt your deepest sorrows.

And now, as we step into 2021, let us remember to hold one another in prayer and to trust God in everything. I am so very blessed to call myself your pastor all feel privileged to work along- side you in the Lord's vineyard in 2021

Grace and peace Pastor Valli



## \* Men's & Women's Ministries \*

### **UNITED METHODIST**



### **United Methodist Men**

The United Methodist Men rang the Salvation Army Red Kettle bells. This activity took the place of the scheduled December meeting.

There will not be a meeting in January.

**IRON SHARPENS IRON (Proverbs 27:17)**



United  
Methodist  
Women  
FAITH · HOPE · LOVE IN ACTION

### **United Methodist Women**

The UMW did not meet in December. I am not sure when will meet in person at this time. I look forward to when we can share a meal and fellowship.

Blessings,  
Judy

**“I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”**

Philippians 4:13

### **Adult Sunday School Class Beginning on January 10th**

Clay Patterson will lead a Study on the Book of James. He is using a resource by Max Lacado.

15 books have been ordered for this study. You may contact Pastor Valli or Clay about getting your book.



## \* Wesley Nurse \*

Dear Devine Congregation and Community Members,

By the time you read this, the new year will have already begun. Hopefully with God's grace and guidance we can make this a better year. I look forward to reconnecting with you all again and hope everyone had a safe, happy, healthy Christmas and New Year.

The Devine South Texas Rural Health Clinic continues to work with the Wesley Nurse program to provide Specialty Referral Services to those in need within our community. This program will continue to provide medical appointments with specialist to those who qualify. If you or someone you know may need this service, please have them make an appointment with me for more information.

At this time MHM has hired a new WN to cover the Hondo area; however, I will continue to provide coverage for already existing clients until the new nurse completes her orientation process, which should be either the end of Jan. or beginning of Feb. I will also be helping to train and precept her for our area. Please grant me grace and patients as I work diligently to get all our services back on line. I'm asking everyone to please call in advance if you need to see or speak to me. If I am unavailable, please leave a message on my machine and I will get back to you as soon as possible. I will continue to help as best as possible while I work through the new workflows and processes that MHM has put in place to keep us all safe. Thank you for your understanding.

The Texas Diaper Bank and "My Healthy Child" class is ongoing through tele-education and social distancing delivery of supplies. If you know of anyone in need of this service, please have them call me and arrangements can be made. As with all other group gatherings and in person contact, once we can meet again, the classes will resume. As always, any classes sponsored or offered by the WN program are open to the public and free of charge.

I would like to send out a heartfelt "thank you" to all who have and continue to donate to the WN fund. Continued support of the Wesley Nurse program has allowed the program to assist those in need, increase our community's educational opportunities and provide various medical assistance. If you feel led to support this program there is a Wesley Nurse Fund established for donations.

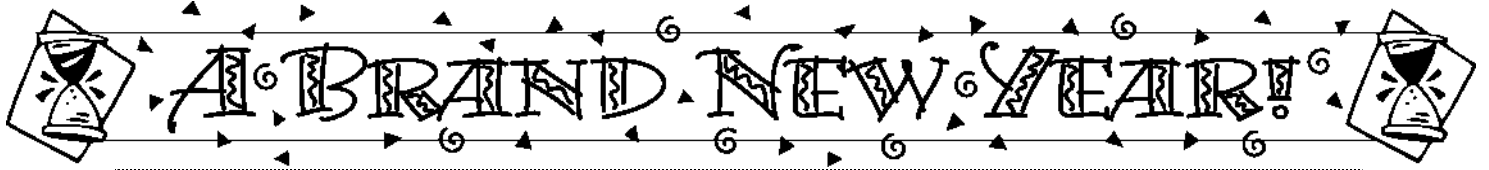
If you would like to see a program, information, or event that you feel would benefit you or the community please contact me. You don't have to be a member in the Healthcare Ministry Team to partner with me in service to those in need in our community. Membership in this committee is appreciated, but not necessary for a one-time project or event.

God Bless,

Georjean Burnell, MSN, RN - Devine FUMC, Wesley Nurse

Telehealth/Visit by Appointment Hours: M-F 8am – 5pm

1-830-663-6108



## \* January Readings \*

### **January Scripture Readings:**

The following themes and Scripture readings are provided as a means to draw closer to God. They come from the Revised Common Lectionary, which groups Old Testament, Psalm, Epistle and Gospel readings together for each Sunday in a three year cycle. Read them prayerfully listening for God's voice.

#### **New Years Day, January 1**

*Theme: This is a time of new beginnings — a time to reflect on the promises of newness and possibilities.*

Ecclesiastes 3:1-13

Psalm 8

Revelation 21:1-6a

Matthew 25:31-46

#### **Epiphany of the Lord Sunday, January 3**

*Theme: In these passages, light breaks through the darkness.*

Isaiah 60:1-6

Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

Ephesians 3:1-12

Matthew 2:1-12

#### **Baptism of the Lord, January 10**

*Theme: The power of speech flows through each of today's readings.*

Genesis 1:1-5

Psalm 29

Acts 19:1-7

Mark 1:4-11

#### **Second Sunday after the Epiphany, January 17**

*Theme: God, who is beyond our comprehension, knows us intimately.*

1 Samuel 3:1-10, (11-20)

Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

John 1:43-51

#### **Third Sunday after the Epiphany, January 24**

*Theme: A sense of urgency marks these readings — a feeling that time is short, or is already at hand.*

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Psalm 62:5-12

1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Mark 1:14-20



### \* Church at Work \*

#### ***BUDGET SUMMARY***

	<u>November</u>	<u>January-November</u>
Operating Donations	\$ 7,420	\$150,205
Operating Expenses	\$ 14,041	\$179,313
<b>Operating Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	<b>\$ (6,621)</b>	<b>\$ (29,108)</b>
Designated Gifts	\$ 1,118	\$ 14,349



#### **TRUSTEE CORNER**



The Board of Trustees did not hold their regular scheduled December 14, 2020 meeting due to the Covid-19 surge. Trustee members who provided input and decision making for 2020 were Pastor Valli, Kay Shultz, Judy Eaddy, Lewis Stroud, Colby Cashion and George Wall.

The Board is asking all members to be sure and lockup the building if you use our church facilities after office hours. It has been noted on several occasions some doors to our buildings have been left open. Thank you for your help with this issue.

The sanctuary attic has come under attack from varmints. These pecky critters (squirrels/mice) chew through electrical lines that run our audio communication system. Measures are being taken to eradicate them as quickly as possible.

One of the main duties of the Trustees is to maintain our church property. The Trustees would like to say “thank you” to all who made donations throughout the year to the Trustee budget. For those wishing to make a donation to help pay for projects like eradicating varmints, simply designate your donation to the Trustee general account. As a rule, the Trustees will not start a project unless there are funds available to complete it.



Submitted by George Wall



**\* BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES \***



Birthdays

**JANUARY**

- Justice Niemietz
- Jeanette Williams
- Denise Woody
- Taylor Sue Mares
- Christian Caddell
- Teri Maxwell
- Ellie Roosa
- James Teninty
- Chloe Cummings
- Marvin Knoeber
- Jeremy Rotramel
- Kiel Boehme
- Shawn & Elena Bishop 
- Leo Torres
- John & Mary Rotramel 
- Killian Kaiser
- Jason & Marian Purchis 
- Kirk & Sue Bates 
- Carl & Billie Pfeiffer 



**January**

**Rail Offering**

**January 3 - Human Relations**  
 When you give today, you strengthen neighborhood outreach and empower at-risk youth. Your generous gift supports the Community Developers Program and community advocacy through United Methodist Voluntary Services, related to the General Board of Global Ministries, and at-risk teens through the Youth Offender Rehabilitation program, General Board of Church and Society.



**Noisy Offering**

**January 17 - To Be Announced**



# JANUARY 2021



SUN

MON

TUES

WED

THUR

FRI

SAT

<p><b>Note:</b> <b><i>SUNDAYS</i></b> 10am Sunday School 11am Worship Services</p>	<p><b>Note:</b> <b><i>YOGA</i></b> 8:30am Mon- Thurs</p>	<p><b>Note:</b> <b><i>WALK</i></b> <b><i>AWAY THE</i></b> <b><i>POUNDS</i></b> 9:00am Mon-Thur</p>			<p>1</p> 	<p>2</p>
<p>3</p>	<p>4 2-4pm Line Dancing</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6 5pm Prayer Team 7pm Choir</p>  <p>EPIPHANY</p>	<p>7 5:00pm AA Dinner</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p>
<p>10</p>	<p>11 2-4pm Line Dancing 4:15pm Girl Scouts (3rd-5th Grds) 6:30pm Trustee Mtg.</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13 5pm Prayer Team 7pm Choir</p>	<p>14 7:30pm AA Meeting</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p>
<p>17</p>	<p>18 2-4pm Line Dancing</p>	<p>19 6:30pm Admin Board</p>	<p>20 5pm Prayer Team 7pm Choir</p>	<p>21 4 7:30pm AA Meeting</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>
<p>24  31</p>	<p>25 2-4pm Line Dancing 4:15pm Girl Scouts (3rd-5th Grds)</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27 5pm Prayer Team 7pm Choir</p>	<p>28 7:30pm AA Meeting</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>