



AMAZING GRACE

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF

Caldwell United Methodist Church

Volume 114 Issue 1

January 2012

New and New-ish

By: Rev. Joyce Rich

As the New Year begins we have the opportunity to “re-boot” – at least that is the term for it with computers. To re-start. What can be “new” as we start the year is our perspective. What can be “new-ish” is how we live our lives in this year.

What will happen as we “re-boot” in 2012? Some things – only God knows. Other things I can see a glimmer of as January begins.

The adult study group time will return on Sunday mornings, starting January 8, for a six-session study of the biblical moorings of love. Then in Lent the group will share in the next BIG READ study of Proverbs. The study group gives everyone the chance to dig deeper into the Bible, to discover something new or anew, and find new-ish ways to live out our faith.

While it is not new to connect the worship of God with ways to serve God, we will continue to have new opportunities to be in service beyond Sunday morning worship. What may be new-ish are when, where, and with whom we serve. If you know someone in our area who needs a helping hand, how can we be in service with and for them?

It is also no longer ‘new’ to have computers as a tool for carrying out ministry. But you might not understand how ‘old’ our main computer is if you haven’t witnessed how long it takes to “fire it up” (I go out to get the mail from the post box while I’m waiting for the computer to start up, and sort that mail while I’m waiting for the email program to open). You also might not know that Chuck Herman brings his own laptop to use with the projector in worship – because the laptop the church has couldn’t keep up with the increased capacity and speed that we need it to work at with the projector. Thanks to generous memorial gifts from members of the Brown family, we are now able to purchase new equipment: a lap top computer to use during worship services with the new projector [another memorial gift dedicated in memory of Nancy Pugh]; and a ‘tower’ computer to use for working on newsletters, bulletins, email, and anything else that needs to be transmitted or printed in the life of the church. These gifts will be dedicated in worship on Sunday, January 8, 2012.

Janis Schmidt says there will be a learning curve with the newer generation of software that will come with our new computer equipment, but she can help with training us on how to use it all. [I interpret this to mean that my old-ish brain will need to learn new-ish things – and that might not happen too swiftly.] So the old/new prayer is for patience!

I am sure that there are other blessings and challenges ahead of us in 2012. But we have the assurance that God goes with us into this New Year. Thanks be to God!

Pastor Joyce

MISSIONS

God's next mission reaches out to the Northcott Neighborhood House, which is a multipurpose and multi-ethnic community center created in 1961. If you attended church on UMW Sunday in September, perhaps you remember the short video and other information about this incredible place located in Milwaukee. You found a pamphlet in your church mailbox December 4 telling all about Northcott Neighborhood House, as well as many programs they provide for the community. Your loose change in the offertory plate and checks written to Caldwell UMC, with a note in the lower left side of your check noting this mission which runs through January, will go to Northcott Neighborhood House.



You can also help this mission by cutting the UPC labels from Campbell soup cans and putting them in the container on the coffee table. There are other labels and lids you can bring in as well. You will find a complete list of them on the table.

A VERY special thank you to those of you who rang the bells for the Salvation Army in Mukwonago, December 1 and 17. 80% of the money stays in Mukwonago helping those in need.



Thank you for loving your neighbor as yourself.



United Methodist Women News

Upcoming UMW events...




January 4 – Wednesday at noon –The Daytime circle will meet. Bring a bag lunch. The program will be, Call to Prayer and Self Denial, titled "A Time to Change"

January 9 – Monday at 6:30 pm – The Evening Circle will meet. We will start to plan our Desserts by Candlelight for February 11, 2012.

A special Thank You to all the bakers and helpers we had for our Cookie Walk, held on December 10th. The profit was over \$500. GOOD JOB and KUDOS to all!

President, Jennie Sanchez

JANUARY 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p style="text-align: center;">1</p>  <p>9:00 AM - 10:00 AM *Worship Service, Bethel UMC and St. James UMC 10:45 AM - 11:45 AM Worship Service w/Communion</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">2</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">3</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">4</p> <p>12:00 PM - 2:00 PM Caldwell United Methodist Women Day Group</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">5</p> <p>No choir rehearsal</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">6</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">7</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">8</p>  <p>9:00 AM - 10:00 AM *Worship Service, Bethel UMC and St. James UMC 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM Study Group 10:45 AM - 11:45 AM Worship Service</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">9</p> <p>6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Caldwell United Methodist Women Evening Group 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM *Study Group, Bethel UMC, Elkhorn</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">10</p> <p>12:00 PM *Mukwonago clergy meeting 2:00 PM *Planning Meeting for East Troy Area Ecumenical Lenten Services, St. Peter's Parish, East Troy</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">11</p> <p>6:45 PM Administrative Team meeting</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">12</p> <p>10:00 AM - 12:00 PM *Metro Region Joint Vision Team, District Ofc 6:30 PM - 7:45 PM Choir rehearsal</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">13</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">14</p> <p>8:00 AM - 10:30 AM Food Pantry 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM *Conference Board of Laity, Sun Prairie</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">15</p>  <p>9:00 AM - 10:00 AM *Worship Service, Bethel UMC and St. James UMC 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM Study Group 10:45 AM - 11:45 AM Worship Service</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">16</p> <p>5:30 PM - 6:30 PM *Second Helpings meal, St. James UMC, East Troy 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM *Study Group, Bethel UMC, Elkhorn</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">17</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">18</p> <p>1:30 PM - 3:00 PM *Circuit #37 Clergy, North Prairie UMC</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">19</p> <p>6:30 PM - 7:45 PM Choir rehearsal</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">20</p> <p>*Faith Alive!, Mt. Morris Camp/Conf Ctr, Wautoma</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">21</p> <p>*Faith Alive!, Mt. Morris Camp/Conf Ctr, Wautoma 11:30 AM - 2:00 PM *Metro Dist's Clergy Family Holiday Appreciation Lunch, Cudahy</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">22</p> <p>*Faith Alive!, Mt. Morris Camp/Conf Ctr, Wautoma 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM *Worship Service, Bethel UMC and St. James UMC 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM Study Group 10:45 AM - 11:45 AM Worship Service</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">23</p> <p>6:30 PM - 7:30 PM *Study Group, Bethel UMC, Elkhorn</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">24</p> <p>4:30 PM - 6:30 PM *Catalyst, Metro University, First UMC, Waukesha 6:45 PM - 7:45 PM Joint Caldwell/Bethel Worship Team</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">25</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">26</p> <p>6:30 PM - 7:45 PM Choir rehearsal</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">27</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">28</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">29</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:00 AM *Worship Service, Bethel UMC and St. James UMC 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM Study Group 10:45 AM - 11:45 AM Worship Service</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">30</p> <p>9:30 AM - 2:30 PM *Clergy Tax Workshop, Sun Prairie 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM *Study Group, Bethel UMC, Elkhorn</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">31</p> <p>6:30 PM - 8:00 PM *Shared Ministry Implementation Team, St. James UMC, East Troy</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">1</p> <p>12:00 PM - 2:00 PM Caldwell United Methodist Women Day Group</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">2</p> <p>6:30 PM - 7:45 PM Choir rehearsal</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">3</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">4</p>

DEADLINE FOR February 2012 NEWSLETTER: January 15, 2012

*Denotes location other than Caldwell UMC

Parsonage Update

Our Trustee's are in the process of finding a renter for the parsonage. If you have any questions, or know someone who would be interested in renting the parsonage, please talk to Pat Tomczyk (Chair of Trustees) or Pastor Joyce for more Information.



A Gift for Your Marriage

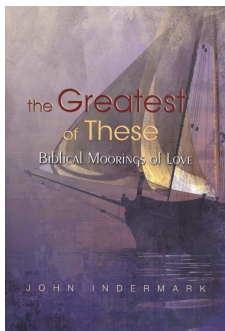
Do you know what a Marriage Encounter Weekend is? It is time away from your busy, everyday life to consider how you put God at the center of your marriage – and in the process you will rediscover the one you love.

The weekend begins on Friday evening, Feb. 17, 2012 and continues through Sunday afternoon, Feb. 19, 2012 at the Fond du Lac Holiday Inn. This is your chance to spend an entire weekend focusing on your spouse and your relationship, working toward God's ideal for marriage. Rest assured, your discussions as a couple will stay between the two of you. At no point will you be required to share in a group setting. Trained, volunteer couples will share their own life experiences and offer tools to restore and improve your communication skills.

An initial, non-refundable fee is required to reserve your space for the Marriage Encounter Weekend. Costs will be explained on the weekend, and you will be given the opportunity to make a confidential donation. Everyone is welcome to attend a weekend, regardless of their ability to pay. For more information, or to register online, visit: www.encounter.org; or call Sharon and Ron Morishita (262-554-0369) or email to w1marriage@gmail.com

This Worldwide Marriage Encounter United Methodist program is affiliated with Worldwide Marriage Encounter and the General Board of Discipleship of The United Methodist Church.

What Does Love Have to Do With It?



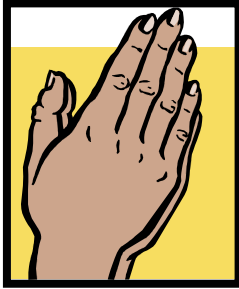
How do we as Christians define love?
What do we mean by love?

Delve deeply and intentionally into what the biblical witness has to say about love – and what that implies for how we practice love.

Sunday mornings for six weeks, starting on January 8, we'll be discussing readings from *The Greatest of These: Biblical Moorings of Love*, by John Indermark. Each chapter is broken into six daily readings that consist of a scripture reference, some thoughts about the scripture, and a brief prayer or spiritual exercise to connect the reading to your personal spiritual journey.

Books are available at church so you can pick one up and read the first chapter before January 8. The group will be meeting from 9:30 to 10:30 AM at church.

Prayers



In January we pray for courage to try new things, for boldness to grow, for flexibility to adapt to change'

In January we pray for everyone who struggles to pay their bills, who barely have the heat on and never feel warm, and who wonder if they can stretch what little food they have a little further.

In January we are thankful for neighbors that check in on us, for timely snow removal, for phone calls and emails and letters that connect us to loved ones we can't see often enough.

In January we thank God for the gift of forgiveness, that in God's mercy we are given the ultimate fresh start: a new life in Christ.

January Birthdays and Anniversaries

BIRTHDAYS		ANNIVERSARIES
1 – Dan Hensgen	16 – Robert Dixon	5 – Gregg & Beth Wissner
6 – Randy Craig	17 – Margaret Bayley	
12 – Steve Lohr	21 – John Huenink	
14 – Chad Klawitter	21 – Steve Hensgen	
15 – Kaila Frank		

GREETERS & SCRIPTURE READERS



GREETERS	READERS
January 1 – Marianne & Peter Lukas	January 1 – Jane Craig
January 8 – Gloria Schmidt & Brian Bayley	January 8 – Miranda Janke
January 15 – Wolf-Dixon Family	January 15 – Jenny Hensgen
January 22 – Jane & Randy Craig	January 22 – Jane & Randy Craig
January 29 – Elouise Benner & Barbara Foster	January 29 – Jennie Sanchez

Do You Need More Offering Envelopes?

If you need a new box of offering envelopes to use in 2012 – they are in the middle drawer of the counter area where the newsletters are displayed next to the coffee machine. We have about nine boxes on hand, and can order more if we need more.



Talk to Jennie Sanchez or Pastor Joyce if you need additional assistance.

**Thank You
For Your Gift**

Dear Caldwellians,
Thank you again for your generous Christmas gift!
I appreciate your thoughtfulness. I look forward to seeing what wonderful, useful, and necessary things I will find at Kohl's – and then I will be grateful to you all over again!

Pastor Joyce

Stewardship Message for January

#274 The one who blesses others is abundantly blessed;
Those who help others are helped.
Proverbs 11:26-27 The Message

God grant me the serenity to accept the people I cannot change, the courage to change the one I can, and the wisdom to know it's me.
-Author Unknown

January is the season for New Year's resolutions. We want to start out the New Year on the "right foot," taking care to improve ourselves and our habits. Getting out of debt and saving money are generally two of the top ten resolutions made each year. Cuts in income seem to be the norm these days, so how do we remain faithful and generous as we set priorities in the New Year?

It seems counter-intuitive but it begins by giving. Generosity breeds a positive, "can-do" attitude in us. It's good to say thank you, even in tough times. Therefore as you make moves toward financial freedom from debt, consider:

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Stewardship Message for January cont.

Continued from page 6...

1. Making the first payment from your check every week or month a "thank you" gift for the many blessings you've received.
2. Save an equal amount in an emergency savings account you can use when you truly need to overspend your regular budget for medical needs, car repairs, house repairs or emergency family travel.

Some folks find that giving 5% of their income to the church and saving another 5% each week or month in an emergency fund can be a helpful spiritual tool as they take responsibility for their finances.

If you'd like help in meeting your financial New Year's resolution, sign up today to attend the two-hour Freed Up From Debt Workshop sponsored by the Foundation on January 29th from 6:00 – 8:00 pm, or January 30th from 3:00 – 5:00 pm in Room 305 of the Conference Center in Sun Prairie. Cost is \$8.00. Everyone is welcome! Call us to register and to get more information.

A Quart of Coins

by Rev. Jean Ehnert Nicholas

We keep a quart jar in a prominent place in our bedroom and put our loose change into it on a regular basis. When it's almost full we take it to the bank and are surprised to discover there's about \$100 that has magically accumulated!

It's also amazing to me that for just over \$100 per member/year we are able to fund the worldwide mission and ministry of the entire United Methodist Church! We may have loose coin offerings for a number of very worthy ministries in our local churches throughout the year. But what are we teaching our children, if we don't meet our primary commitment to the ministry done in our name here in Wisconsin & throughout the world through our apportionments?

I invite you to start now—at the beginning of the year—to find a way to fund your share of the church's apportionments. Maybe you can write a check for the full amount upfront. Or you may be like many folks who are struggling to make ends meet, and the most you can give are a few coins each week. Start now, and when that jar is full you'll be amazed at how much you've saved!

If you don't have children or grandchildren at home, invite a child or two from your church to help you count it. And if you wish, involve those children in giving the gift the following Sunday in a special envelope marked for apportionments. For many wonderful stories of how these gifts are used for the ministry of Christ and the glory of God, go to: www.umcsgiving.org.

For more resources to help you meet your financial goals this year visit: www.sharesavespend.com – Family Money Talks, Mind Your Money-for adults, and Money Sanity Solutions Book and DVD

www.moneypurposejoy.com – click on "Resources," "Calculators," and then "Accelerated Debt Payoff Calculator"

www.threerules.org

www.willowcreek.com

[/resources/good_sense.asp](http://resources/good_sense.asp)



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**Visit us on the Web
CaldwellUMC.org**

**Worship with Us
Sundays at 10:45 AM**

**Newsletter deadline for
The February 2012 issue is
Sunday, January 15, 2012**

**Items can be sent via
e-mail to
crlohr@wi.rr.com**



**Visit our website for
Complete directions
Or call 262-363-2680**

Caldwell UMC gives thanks for:

