

January 2024

THE GOOD WORD

Taylorsville United Methodist Church
4356 Ridge Road, Mount Airy, Maryland 21771
www.taylorsvilleumc.org
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Happy New Year

Like many people, New Year's is usually a secular holiday. It is a time to watch fireworks and sing 'Auld Lang Syne' as people on the TV carry on with a crystal ball in Times Square. I confess I have spent most New Year's at home in bed before the year rolls over. Though I'm not opposed to a fun gathering to ring in the new year, I don't usually consider New Year's a particularly religious or faithful holiday.

However, in some churches and throughout Methodist history, people have gathered for worship. Methodists often treat the new year as an opportunity to renew their commitment to God and each other. John Wesley used to advocate for a new year's covenant renewal service. Congregations would gather to welcome the new year and refresh their commitment to being a faith community with prayers for unity and dedication to God. If you want to know what it might look like, look up the 'Covenant Renewal Prayer' in our worship resources.

In African American churches, gathering for New Year's takes on additional meaning. The watch night service is a vigil commemorating a milestone in ending slavery. The emancipation proclamation came into law at midnight as 1862 turned over into 1863. It's an opportunity to remember past achievements while looking forward to the promise of a new tomorrow.

However you celebrate, remember that the New Year brings new opportunities; whether you plan to make a significant personal resolution, let this year be the time to create a new approach to life and faith. If you found that last year left you with too much pessimism and negativity, start this year with a fresh new attitude and spirit. Remember the advice we find in Ephesians.

"You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness" (Ephesians 4:22-24).

However you welcome the New Year, let's recommit ourselves to renew ourselves and our faith. If you feel called to do something in God, take the opportunity to respond this year. This year is a great time to start if you want to deepen your faith. If you want to start that new Bible study or fellowship group, now is your time. And if you have no plans for the new year, that's okay. Let God guide you, and your year will be filled with fresh grace.

May God bless us all with a new year and inspiration to be the church shaped in Jesus' name. Amen.


Pastor Josh



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

1	Stephanie Brodbeck	18	Brianna Smith
3	Hearl Wright	24	Dean Parrish
9	Audrey Parrish	28	Bea Wright

If your Birthday or Anniversary is not listed in the Newsletter, please let the office know.



January

Mt. Airy Net is Collecting:

**Pancake Mix, Syrup,
Cereal, Lunchables, Soups**

* Any donation is appreciated

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

USHERS/GREETERS
January Sandy Wright/Ritta Jones

READER
January Dee Haines

Let Office know if you can help



**Men's
breakfast**

All Men are Welcome!
Saturday, Jan. 6-9:00 AM

Going to Buttersburg Inn in
Union Bridge, MD


Contact John with questions



NewsLetter

DEADLINE

February
Newsletter Deadline is:
January 22



United Women in Faith

All Women are Invited!
Thursday, Jan. 25th

Going to Buttersburg Inn in
Union Bridge, MD

RSVP to Dee by January 21st

New on-line giving through our website. Go to: <https://taylorsvilleumc.org/>

Please keep the following in your prayers:

Prayer



- Vivian’s great-grandson, Landen needs prayers-heart surgery this month
- Uncle with bladder cancer
- Debra’s brother, Jeff, diagnosed with pulmonary fibrosis
- The Taylor’s niece, Jessie, diagnosed with lupus
- Anne’s niece has high blood pressure
- Pat Bean - coming home, pray for healing
- Chris’s cousin serving overseas in Navy
- Anne’s cousin, Melvin needs prayer
- Storms, disasters in our world
- Carol’s sister, Laura chemo
- Pray for the homeless
- Linda Cole, continued prayers for healing
- Pastor Josh’s family friend, Gail Sickle has bone cancer
- Sue’s cousin, Steve-started new chemotherapy for pancreas cancer
- Sharon’s niece, Jackie Eyler-surgery
- Amy’s cousin, Alex-swelling is down in skull, pray for healing
- Carol’s step-daughter, doing well, pray for healing
- Michelle Manco’s sister, Diana finished round of cancer treatments
- Bonnie’s great niece, Micah-leukemia
- Prayers for homeless near and far
- Those that are sick with COVID and other illnesses
- Those grieving the loss of loved ones
- Taylorsville UMC
- The United Methodist Church
- Pray for our Country and World Peace
- Prayers for Ukraine
- Prayers for Israel
- For those in assisted living facilities, and employees. Our members in assisted living is Bud Kibbe, Hagerstown, Betty Carey-Lorien, Taneytown, Richard Wright-Lorien, Mt. Airy

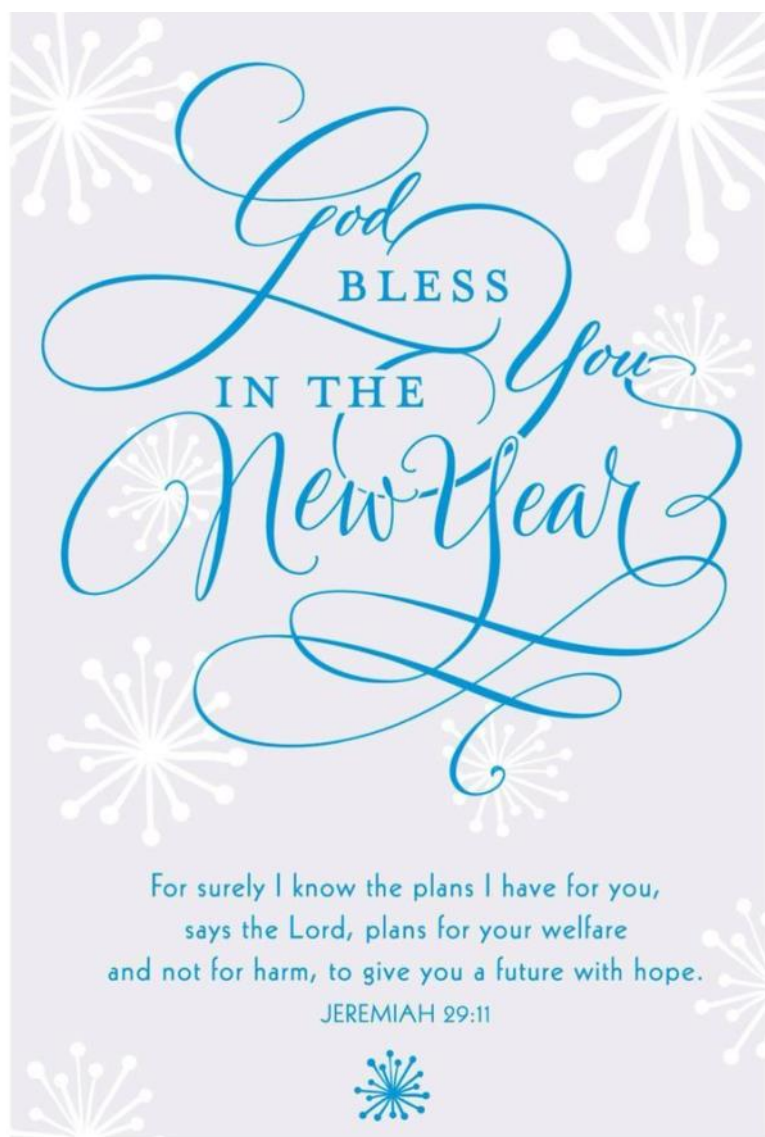
Joys

- The birth of our Savior
- Christmas celebrations
- Family and friends
- Hope, Peace, Joy, Love for the New Year
- Our church family

We want to keep our prayer list as up to date as possible. Please let the office know if there is a prayer request that we have missed or one we need to take off the list. Thank you for your help with this.

Prayers for Service Persons

Sean Grimes
(U S Navy-Tampa)
Thank you for your service Sean!!



Looking Ahead to February:

Tuesday, February 13, 2024 - Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. Contact Vivian if you can help.

Wednesday, February 14, 2024 - Ash Wednesday Service 7:00PM

Scripture Readings and Sermon Titles this January



January 7, 2024

Epiphany, Communion Sunday

Ephesians 3:1-12, Matthew 2:1-12
Sermon Title: "A Gift to the Nation"

January 14, 2024

2nd Sunday after Epiphany, Human Relations Day

I Samuel 3:1-10, John 1:43-51
Sermon Title: "Listen to the One Calling"

January 21, 2024

3rd Sunday after Epiphany

Jonah 3:1-5, 10, Mark 1:14-20
Sermon Title: "Responding to the Call"

January 28, 2024

4th Sunday after Epiphany

I Corinthians 8:1-13, Mark 1:21-28
Sermon Title: "Authority but not Authoritarian"



Adult Sunday School Class in Basement - Fellowship Hall ~ 9:00 a.m. Contact: Dee Haines

We continue to look at Faith That Pleases God in January. Faith is “confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see “. Faith demands that we trust the Lord rather than ourselves. King Jehoshaphat demonstrates one example of confident faith. Enemies had come against Judah, resulting in the peoples’s fear. However, the Spirit of the Lord came upon Jahaziel the Levite, who reminded King Jehoshaphat that the battle belonged to the Lord and the Lord alone.

Christians have another reason to be confident: despite life’s challenges, we do not live that life alone. The apostle Paul taught that through faith, Christians become “one body” with other believers. As members of that body, we receive spiritual gifts that we can use to serve and encourage the whole body.

We invite you to join us at 9 a.m. on Sunday mornings in the church social hall.

Adult Sunday School Class 8:50 a.m.-Ed. Bldg. Contacts: Steve Novick/Jeff Taylor

Group meets in the house at 8:55AM. Zoom is available if you cannot meet in person.

Podcast News from Jeff Taylor

The **TaylorsvilleUMC** webpage now has a section dedicated to podcasts produced by our church.

This page can be reached through the following link: <https://taylorsvilleumc.org/podcasts>
It also has a menu item at the top of the home page. <https://taylorsvilleumc.org>

On it you will find three different playlists. A playlist is a group of podcasts related by subject matter.

You simply click on the displayed video to access all videos in the playlist.

The first playlist is a collection of Pastor Josh’s weekly sermons called “Just Preach Jesus”.

The second is a collection of our 9:00 am *Sunday school* class discussions currently centered on Jewish/Christian Reflections on the Lord’s Prayer.

The third is a collection of podcasts by me on various topics regarding religion, theology, and history.

A fourth playlist was added early in March that contains the six Lenten study Zoom sessions for the Easter season.

These podcasts are not just for members of our church but are designed to appeal to the wider community.

So please feel free to talk about them and share the links with anyone you feel may be interested.

This is all part of **TaylorsvilleUMC**’s plan to grow our on-line congregation.



Recipe: *Happy New Year Recipe*

From the Kitchen of: Submitted by Vivian Overholtzer

4 cups good memories
2 tbsp of joy
1 cup of relaxation
3 tsp of anticipation
a dash of faith
2 ½ cups of “jolly” beans
a splash of eggnog
1 barrel of good cheer

Take good memories and joy,
mix thoroughly and add relaxation.
Blend anticipation and faith;
fold in “jolly” beans and eggnog!
Sprinkle abundantly with good cheer.
Garnish with friends and family.
Bake with love!
Makes enough to last the whole season!



2024

Office Hours
M, W, TH
9:00AM-2:30PM

TAYLORSVILLE UMC



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 6:30PM Choir	4	5	6 9:00AM Men's Breakfast- Buttersburg Inn
7 Mission Giving Sunday 9:00AM Sunday School 10:00AM Worship- Facebook live/website	8	9	10 6:30PM Choir	11	12	13
14 9:00AM Sunday School 10:00AM Worship- Facebook live/website	15	16	17 6:30PM Choir	18	19	20
21 9:00AM Sunday School 10:00AM Worship- Facebook live/website RSVP due to Dee for UWIF Luncheon	22 7:00PM Council Newsletter Deadline	23	24 6:30PM Choir	25 UWIF Luncheon	26	27
28 9:00AM Sunday School 10:00AM Worship- Facebook live/website	29	30	31 6:30PM Choir			Mt. Airy Net Collecting: Pancake Mix, Syrup, Cereal, Lunchables, Soups

 **Taylorville
United Methodist Church**
Church Phone: 410-875-4101
Email: taylorvilleumcmd@gmail.com

Our Mission of Purpose

We of Taylorville UMC are a community of faith who believe in Jesus Christ and who value Bible study, prayer, mission and growing in discipleship. We will connect with our unchurched neighbors through small groups that present opportunities to share our faith and worship God together.

We're on the Web!
www.taylorvilleumc.org



To unsubscribe or to receive this through e-mail please call the church office at 410-875-4101 or e-mail taylorvilleumcmd@gmail.com

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