



# INTO THE FOLD January 2020

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## Ponderings by Pastor JoEllyn....

“HAPPY NEW YEAR!”

*Memories like the corners of my mind. Misty water-colored memories, of the way we were.*  
(The Way We Were/Barbra Streisand/1973)

How do you remember 2019? Did this year, only days old, give you all you ever dreamed of; or are you happy to say farewell as you start anew?

My mind is still wrapped around the gift that December brought us. Jesus' birth is that gift that keeps on giving. It is our honor as Christ-Followers to re-gift His birth, every day of the year.

As this new year begins, we are not sure what it holds for each of us. We can be sure that whatever comes our way, we are not alone. I always pray that our Christ will be with us as we take each step of our daily journey. “Lord be with us today. Be in front of us, be behind us, stand on our right and on our left, be above our head and below our feet. Amen.”

The Bible says in Jeremiah 29:11: For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

We serve a God who has promised this Jeremiah scripture and many more that offer reassurance. God is,

the same yesterday, today and forever.

In every season of our lives, there is a new thing that God is doing. If we open our hearts and spirits to what He has in store. Whatever your age, occupation, work status, the voice of God calls out to you, “Follow Me.”

The God of Isaiah declares:

**19** I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?

I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

Only God knows what we will live and learn in the year 2020. Ask yourself the following:

What new things am I being asked to do in this New Year?

What new thing is our church being called to do in this New Year?

It is my privilege and joy to share this journey with you as we discover God together.

Praying you through,  
Pastor JoEllyn

## Can you believe it's 2020??

### Bette's Bits & Bytes:

Cookies have been made, given out, and eaten, Shopping is done, presents unwrapped, some have decorations all put away...

The church was wonderfully & beautifully decorated. It was an awesome candlelight service that now only lives on in our memories, or you could go to church Facebook page and view the service there.

Now What?

Epiphany, when the wisemen followed the star and came upon the child, Jesus, to pay homage to the Newborn King, is January 6<sup>th</sup>. I have often wondered how many Wiseman (Magi) were there? The bible doesn't say... Were there only three as the song “We Three Kings” say or were there many more. Were there other gifts brought besides, Gold, Frankincense, & Myrrh? Maybe diapers, bottles, blankets, onesies, sleepers, rattles? Did they even have these kinds of things back then? What is the significance of these three gifts? They were perfect gifts for a King... God told the wisemen to travel home by a different route, so they would by-pass, Herod. Soon after the wisemen, however many there were, left, God told Joseph to flee, so the gifts may have helped finance the trek... Was the Myrrh, a fragrant spice and key ingredient in the mixture of spices that were known to be used to prepare bodies for burial, a foreshadowing type gift knowing what awaited Jesus a short 33 years later & used on His body?? We will never know on this side of Heaven.... Now we continue the journey to the cross

I love this song by "Go Fish" and I share the lyrics with you. Go to YouTube & search to hear this song...It is a great contemporary song....

### "It's About the Cross"

It's not just about the manger  
Where the baby lay  
It's not all about the angels  
Who sang for him that day

It's not just about the shepherds  
Or the bright and shining star  
It's not all about the wisemen  
Who travelled from afar

It's about the cross  
It's about my sin  
It's about how Jesus came  
to be born once  
So that we could be born again

It's about the stone  
That was rolled away  
So that you and I could have  
real life someday

It's about the cross  
It's about the cross

It's not just about the presents  
Underneath the tree  
It's not all about the feeling  
That the season brings to you & me

It's not just about coming home  
To be with those you love  
It's not all about the beauty  
In the snow I'm dreaming of,

But it's the ending that can save you  
and that's why we celebrate

It's about the cross  
It's about my sin  
It's about how Jesus came  
to be born once  
So that we could be born again  
It's about God's love  
Nailed to a tree  
It's about every drop of blood  
That flowed from Him  
When it should have been me

It's about the stone  
That was rolled away  
So that you and I could have  
real life someday  
So that you and I could have  
real life someday  
It's about the cross  
It's about the cross

In 2020 May you dance like Frosty,  
Glow like Rudolf, Give like Santa,  
Love like Jesus!!!  
Hakuna Matata!

Blessings & Peace be yours, *Bette*

Wishing you 12 months of happiness,  
52 weeks of fun, 365 days of  
laughter, 8,760 hours of joy, 525,600  
minutes of good health and  
31,536,000 seconds surrounded by  
God's Amazing Hope, Love, Joy,  
Peace, Grace, Mercy,



#### ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

**Finishing up the Angel series and  
it has yet to be determined what  
the next Study will be...**

Please come & join us. Class meets at  
10:30 right after fellowship hour

#### CHILDRENS CHURCH:

A new program begins January, with  
two Sunday Classes, one for  
preschool – 2 grade & one for grade  
3 & up. Karen Fitzgerald is excited for  
this change in the Sunday School  
program to see where it takes the  
children & teachers in their next  
steps.... **KidsOwn Worship** will help  
the Kids experience God through  
dynamic Bible learning and engaging  
worship. Prayer, praise and worship  
all tie into the weekly Bible passage.  
Creative lessons and crafts keep kids  
engaged, music teaches Scripture—  
all with life-changing results. The  
children will meet together for music,  
then go to their respective classes..

Even the preschoolers will be  
involved, so they start their journey  
to know Jesus and what He is all  
about...



**The December Best Years** meeting  
met at the Blacksmith Shoppe,  
hosted by; Iva Wasielewski. Iva said  
grace. 23 persons enjoyed a time of  
lively conversation. Each attendee  
received a bag of christmas chocolate  
as a table favor. Iva reported that  
Pastor JoEllyn was under the  
weather. January birthdays, Joe  
Knowlton 1/10 , & Pastor JoEllyn  
1/29... Present were: Mary Kessler,  
Joe & Susan Knowlton, Connie  
Reynolds, Steve & Linda Everingham,

Lisa Tucker, Pam Dixon, Myrna  
Everill, Evelin Hamilton, Sharon  
Campos, Robert Swanson, Wayne &  
Shirley Kirkham, Art & Rose Lenig,  
Bette Schaefer, Ben & Karen Rison,  
Lester Chadwick, Joyce Blint, Debbie  
Harris & her very special guest,  
grandson Nero ... Mary Kessler will  
host the January Meeting of Best  
Years. The place to be announced  
later....



Thank you to those  
who have given to  
the Kings Club to  
support the missions of our church.

**Kings Club Offerings for the month  
of December include:**

**Shirley Kirkham gave in celebration  
of: Her birthday 12-7**

\*Kings club offerings go to support  
the local missions supported by the  
Missions and Outreach Committee.  
Which includes The Rolling Prairie  
Food Pantry, Hope Rescue Mission,  
Broadway Christian Parish, the Local

Emergency Fund, and the Journey to Bethlehem. Donations of any amount are appreciated and accepted.



12 Rob & Amy Manuszak (Bill & Jean Dare daughter)

13 John & Linnaea Arford (Myrna Everill Daughter)

24 Troy & Jaime Nickerson (Terry & Joann Nickerson son)



January

- 01 Jaclyn Hunn
- 03 Madison Lenig
- 04 Donna Cain
- 06 Linnaea Arford
- 06 Kris Moody
- 07 Morgan Porter
- 08 Luke Kovalcin
- 09 Wendy Hakes
- 10 Suzanne Syverson
- 10 Nicole Richardson
- 10 Sean Everingham
- 10 Joe Knowlton
- 11 Marilynn Livinghouse
- 12 Debra Harris
- 16 Kameron Coffinger
- 17 Bobby Siford
- 20 Jay Dare
- 20 Nicole Adams
- 21 Reese Armstrong
- 22 Aiden Chadwick
- 23 Cassie Porter
- 23 Stefanie Obenchain
- 24 Margaret Rimmer
- 26 Sydney Moody
- 27 Virginia Bradford
- 28 Tim Wheatbrook
- 29 JoEllyn Chadwick
- 30 Ella Wheatbrook
- 30 Karen Swanson
- 31 Jacob Goodspeed
- 31 Courtney Masek

A request was made to have the first week of the next months' birthdays

to be in newsletter....Will begin that this month..

**February Birthdays**

- 04 Mary Eddy
- 05 Roxanna Hawkins
- 06 Arthur Schuck
- 06 Ciara Daley
- 09 Olivia Obenchain
- 09 Penny Melton



If you have a need or you know someone that needs prayers, Call

Pastor JoEllyn and she will relay to the next person

to activate the Prayer Chain.

Pastor JoEllyn's Cell phone # for After Hours Emergency & Prayer Chain Request **(219)-363-5061**

**EVENTS & MEETINGS**

**JANUARY 2020**

**UMW Meeting**

Tuesday Jan 14 9:30 a.m.

**Board/Council Meeting**

Tuesday Jan. 14, 6 p.m.

Chair persons please have an outline for Deb & if you can't be there have someone there to represent your committee or a report to be read.

**BEST YEARS**

Wednesday, Jan. 15 Since Blacksmith Shoppe is closing a new place will be decided soon..



Thank you to our sound room guys.. Neal Syverson & Ben Rison.. these two

work behind the scenes, to ensure that God's Word and our praise is seen and heard on the screens.. running the mics, spinning discs for special music, videos and more.. We have recently gotten new software to go with the new screens, and all this is still in the learning curve..

Thank you, Neal for the extra effort of inputting all the bulletin info for viewing on the screens...Doesn't happen without you...

Thank You Tom & Jackie Wheatbrook & Scott Lenig for getting all hardware up for the banners & hanging of banners..



They look awesome...

Thank You Pastor JoEllyn & Scott for decorating the wreath over the sanctuary doors..



We are very blessed to have some very talented people in our Church

Family.. Thank you for sharing your talents with us... Carrie Carlson, who plays the violin marvelously, Steve Everingham, who plays a mean trumpet & guitar, Scott Lenig, fingers that tickle those ivory keys on the organ.... Our Choir, with their magnificent voices, Julie Phillips, Stefanie Obenchain, Virginia Bradford, Susan Knowlton, Linda Everingham, Sue Syverson, Carrie Carlson, Steve Everingham, Scott Lenig, Lisa Tucker, Pastor JoEllyn,

My Dear Family in Christ, We have experienced another wonderful Christmas together.



God is doing amazing things in and through our congregation, and for that I am thankful. .

I was honored to receive your love offering at our Christmas Eve

Worship Service. Thank you so very much for thinking of me. May you always know His love and share it with others. Loving you always,  
Pastor JoEllyn and Lester



Thank You

Thank you so much for the generous Christmas Love gift you gave. It is with pleasure that I am able to work at this fantabulous church & in my own small way be an extension of Jesus' hands & feet. This is the most wonderful Church Family and when I count my blessings I count you a gazillion times...Thank you for all of the ways you support and encourage throughout the year. I pray 2020 will be filled with God's abundant blessings for each & every one of us..

Hugs, & Much love, Bette

Thank you so very much for opening your hearts and giving so very generously to our three deserving families we had this year...



We collected \$1234, Walmart & Gas Gifts Cards, Turkeys, Turkey gift certificate, Martin's gift card, a Robe, scarf & glove set, lego building set, lighted drawing table, stuffed animal. We purchased more Gas Cards for all the families, soft cuddly blankets, food & snack items, thermos cups (for homeless couple to keep drinks warm), gift cards or certificates to Round the Clock, Dunkin Donuts, to mention a few... It is difficult to get to movies for our one family so Toy Story 4 & Abominable DVD's were purchased

so they could watch at home. A \$100 gas card was given to Pam Dixon to help with gas for her treatments in Hobart...The pics below are what was given to the our 2019 Deserving Families... Thank you again so much...



Your love offering also went to this great cause.... The school let us know of a student who needed a new mattress, We took \$150 and Andy's Furniture gave us a good deal on a twin mattress for youngster. The School Guidance Counselor went & picked it up & delivered it to the family..



**January  
FOOD  
PANTRY  
Requests**

- Always Need plastic bags
- Canned Pasta, (beef-a-roni, spaghetti -O's etc.
- Can't keep on the Shelf
- Any kind of soup
- Any canned Fruit

Egg cartons no longer needed...  
Thank You to all who brought them in..



By Penny Derucki

The United Methodist Women came together in friendship and fellowship on December 10, 2019. We enjoyed refreshments provided by our Hostess Iva Wasielewski. We shared cares and concerns for our friend and longtime member Donna Cain, members of our church family and for our community as well. We pray for healing, comfort and rest in the quiet days of winter and a renewed spirit when the springtime comes for all.

I want to share with you a **Mission Witness** from our **Prayer Calendar:**

*Missionaries are attentive and attending, tuned in and responding to the world's needs. We are listening ears, shoulders of support and hiking partners on the trail of life. We are not the solution. We are God's tools for a crying world.*

And...NOT ONLY AT CHRISTMAS TIME – but each and every day.

Thanks be to God for allowing us to share our **Blessings** with those who might be short on Blessings. We worked on adding details to our planned events for 2020. We will be having our Valentine tea on Saturday, February 8 and our Mother-Daughter Salad Bar on Tuesday, May 12 at 5:30pm here at the church. On Saturday June 6, we will be holding a Your Treasures Market in our parking lot. We will be renting space for garage sales, crafters, fruit and flower stands, etc. The Backpacks-4-kids program, which provides food for students who do not always have food to eat on the weekends during the school year, will Be receiving a donation of \$274.00 from the Best Years Thanksgiving dinner. The United Methodist

women will donate \$300.00 to our deserving family Christmas collection. We invite you to join us for our first meeting of the New Year. January 14, 2020 at 9:30am at the church. Barbara Parker will be our Hostess and Rose Lenig will give our Program. The meeting usually lasts until around 11:00-lively conversation, casual dress, refreshments, a very enjoyable time. If the New Prairie schools are delayed or closed due to weather, our meeting will be cancelled.

The United Methodist women are reviving a mission. With the congregation's help we like to take meals to fellow members who have been discharged from hospital, sick, had a baby, ect. We are looking for volunteers, who when called upon, will make meals (or purchase) and deliver to those in need. If you would like to help or have more questions please call Barbara Parker at 219- 851-3026



Neal Syverson (Cellulitis) Dan Wheatbrook,, home recovering Septic Pneumonia, Tom /Jackie Wheatbrook brother

Congressman John Lewis, Georgia Stage 4 Pancreatic Cancer, He has asked for prayers...

Continue to lift up those in our church family that are struggling with various health concerns who wish to not be named. Please keep their UNSPOKEN REQUESTS lifted in prayer, as God knows who each of them are and what it is they need. Give them strength Oh Lord, to deal with whatever their struggle... Let them feel your arms embracing them with your warm, wonderful, love.. Bless them with your Peace. Thank You, God....

**If you want someone to remain on or added please fill out new request card or call Pastor JoEllyn or Bette 219-778-2910**



Garrett Obenchain US Air Force Reserves Son of Jeremy & Stefanie Grandson Art & Rose Lenig Jacob Adams US Army- States grandson

Chris Adams  
Craig Carlson, (pilot) US Air Force son Harold & Carrie Carlson

Matthew Chadwick US Army - son Lester & JoEllyn Chadwick Michael Showalter Marines, grandson Wayne & Shirley Kirkham Matthew Rompca Air Force nephew Shirley & Wayne Kirkham Katelyn Williamson U S Marines

Daughter of Al and granddaughter of Jim Williamson  
If you have someone serving and would like on our prayer list please let Bette know...

Please lift all those serving our country, who are struggling, for whatever the reason; being alone, illness, divorce, loss of job, loss of loved ones, going through the firsts after death of loved one. Give thanks for everything.... Hear our Prayers, Oh Lord!



**Question: Should I eliminate carbohydrates from my diet to help lose weight?**

Answer: What was once known as the Adkins diet has reappeared as the Keto diet. Many have

successfully lost weight using the keto diet and cutting carbohydrates. However, the keto diet is not for everyone and is not the only way to successfully lose weight. In fact, although large amounts of weight can be lost on the keto diet it can be hard to keep weight off long term with this approach.

Carbohydrates are our bodies' primary source of energy. For our brain, organs, and muscles all to work it takes energy from carbohydrates. Our body stores carbohydrates when we eat too much of them and don't use them through exercise. Carbohydrates store as triglycerides which can turn into fat. When carbohydrates are eliminated from the diet the body turns to the next source of energy which is fat. When the body uses fat for an energy source it creates ketone bodies. This is not our bodies natural method of metabolism which is why weight can be lost so quickly when carbohydrates are excluded.

Most people over consume carbohydrates and should cut back. Try to make sure at least half of the grains eaten each day are whole grains and added sugars are kept to a minimum. It is not necessary to cut carbs totally out of the diet and as discussed early they are important to run our body. A long term approach to weight loss that includes moderating calories and includes healthful food habits is be best way of losing and keeping off weight.

Hears to a Healthy & Happy New Year,  
Gretchen Krivak MS, RD, CGFI, EIM-1



You all know what Buzz Lightyear's go to phrase is..

**"To Infinity & beyond..."**

What exactly is infinity? Does it exist in space as well as time? These questions are fun to think about, but they can be hard to understand. When something is "to infinity," that means it goes on forever and ever. Guess who created infinity? That's right, God did. You want more to "chew on"? Well, God is infinity to the future and infinity to the past. He has always existed and always will exist. Wow, that will put some strain on your brain. Of course that means God existed before infinity. Wow, that gives a whole new meaning to the phrase "to infinity and beyond!" So, what is God's plan for the rest of infinity? The answer to that question is awesome. God is preparing a place where He would like everyone to live for the next million billion years. You guessed it. The place He's preparing is Heaven. Heaven is "to infinity and beyond" in a lot of ways. It's a place that's far away and can only be imagined in our dreams. The Bible says the sea looks like crystal, the streets shine with gold, and the entry gate is made of pearl. Incredible! When Jesus comes back to get us, we will instantly leave the earth and be present in Heaven. That will definitely be cool. No one really knows when or how this is all going to happen, but the Bible tells us it is definitely going to happen someday. You can be certain that the greatest day in history will be the day Jesus comes back to get all the Christians, that's you & me, and take them to Heaven where they will live for infinity and beyond. Make sure you will be a part of the biggest event of

all time. Pray and ask God to forgive you of the things you've done wrong. Accept His free gift of salvation and then share His love with others. By doing this, you are guaranteed a ticket to the ride of a lifetime. So, as the new year gets rolling, keep your heart and mind focused on God, and you will be ready for "INFINITY AND BEYOND!"

According to Revelation 21:18-21, Heaven will be filled with all kinds of beautiful gems and jewels. Below is the Bible scripture mentioned above, see how many of these jewels you can uncover from the scripture above...

- AMETHYST BURLY JASPER
- EMERALD CHRYSOLITE
- JACINTH TOPAZ
- GOLD PEARL
- CHALCEDONY SAPPHIRE ONYX
- CHRYSOPRASE

**The New Jerusalem**

1Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth. The first heaven and the first earth had disappeared. Now there was no sea. 2And I saw the holy city coming down out of heaven from God. This holy city is the new Jerusalem. It was prepared like a bride dressed for her husband. 3I heard a loud voice from the throne. The voice said, "Now God's home is with men. He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them and will be their God. 4He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death, sadness, crying, or pain. All the old ways are gone." 5The One who was sitting on the throne said, "Look! I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this, because these words are true and can be trusted."

6The One on the throne said to me: "It is finished! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give free water from the spring of the water of life to anyone who is thirsty. 7Anyone who wins the victory will receive this. And I will be his God, and he will be my son. 8But those who are cowards, who refuse to believe, who do evil things, who kill, who are sexually immoral, who do evil magic, who worship idols, and who tell lies—all these will have a place in the lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death." 9One of the seven angels came to me. This was one of the angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last troubles. He said, "Come with me. I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb." 10The angel carried me away by the Spirit to a very large and high mountain. He showed me the holy city, Jerusalem. It was coming down out of heaven from God. 11It was shining with the glory of God. It was shining bright like a very expensive jewel, like a jasper. It was clear as crystal. 12The city had a great high wall with 12 gates. There were 12 angels at the gates. On each gate was written the name of 1 of the 12 tribes of Israel. 13There were three gates on the east, three on the north, three on the south, and three on the west. 14The walls of the city were built on 12 foundation stones. On the stones were written the names of the 12 apostles of the Lamb. 15The angel who talked with me had a measuring rod made of gold. He had this rod to measure the city, its gates, and its wall. 16The city was built in a square. Its length was equal to its width. The angel measured the city with the rod. The city was 1,500 miles long, 1,500 miles wide, and 1,500 miles high. 17The angel also measured the wall. It was 216 feet high, by man's measurement. That

was the measurement the angel was using. 18The wall was made of jasper. The city was made of pure gold, as pure as glass. 19The foundation stones of the city walls had every kind of jewel in them. The first cornerstone was jasper, the second was sapphire, the third was chalcedony, the fourth was emerald, 20the fifth was onyx, the sixth was carnelian, the seventh was chrysolite, the eighth was beryl, the ninth was topaz, the tenth was chrysoprase, the eleventh was jacinth, and the twelfth was amethyst. 21The 12 gates were 12 pearls. Each gate was made from a single pearl. The street of the city was made of pure gold. The gold was clear as glass.

22I did not see a temple in the city. The Lord God All-Powerful and the Lamb are the city's temple. 23The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it. The glory of God is its light, and the Lamb is the city's lamp. 24By its light the people of the world will walk. The kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. 25The city's gates will never be shut on any day, because there is no night there. 26The greatness and the honor of the nations will be brought into it. 27Nothing unclean will ever enter the city. No one who does shameful things or tells lies will ever go into it. Only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life will enter the city.

Copyright © 2015 by Tommy Nelson™, a Division of Thomas Nelson, Inc. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Learn More About International Children's Bible  
The Bible says one day Jesus will appear in the clouds (Matt. 24:30) and take all His children to be with Him in Heaven. That's going to be a very cool trip. While you are waiting for Jesus to come and take you to Heaven, why don't you ask your

mom or dad for a bag of marshmallows and have a little fun with your friends?

**Cloudy Creations:** Give each player 15 large marshmallows and 8 toothpicks. Each player gets 3 minutes to see who can create the best cloud.

**Relay:** Give each player 4 large marshmallows. One marshmallow is to be placed under the chin, another under each arm, and one between the knees. Each player hops, waddles, or walks to a specific point about 8 feet away and then turns and walks back. The player then tags the next person and he begins. If a marshmallow falls midway, you must stop and put it back before continuing. The first team to finish is the winner.

Excerpted from:  
<https://www.tbcnow.org/kids-newsletter>

Thank You Jesus for loving us "To Infinity & Beyond" AMEN!!

The fifth **Journey to Bethlehem** was a success. The presentation of Jesus' birth was held at the Christian Church. After wards the guests were driven through Rolling Prairie on tractor pulled wagons to see the dazzling, sparkling, lights & decorations decking out the homes of the townfolks and then were let out to stroll the shops in the town of Bethlehem, that was setup in the Library parking lot...

## JOYS

During the Joy segment, of Church service Dec 29<sup>th</sup>, our young Miss Maddy wanted to share her Joy!  
"Joy is being at this church & that we will worship Jesus face to face someday ...

AWWWWW! Miss Maddy is certainly growing in her next steps with Jesus....

2019 we were introduced to the wonderful voice of, one of our youth, Miss Halyn, Cheryl Pumroy's granddaughter. She wowed us in November when she sang "Sing a Song for Joy". And she didn't disappoint during our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, when she sang, "Infant Lowly, Infant Holy" with Scott Lenig, Julie Phillips, & Sue Syverson as her back-up.. Looking forward to hearing her more....



The Candlelight Service was awesome and we were so blessed to listen to the Christmas Songs, we all love, being sung by our own Church family, Stefanie Obenchain, "Ava Maria", Molly Lenig, Alice Lenig's granddaughter, "Christmas Lullaby", Julie Phillips, O Holy Night.. You can view the Christmas Eve Service on Rolling Prairie United Methodist Church Facebook Page...

We finally have our new media screens. They are up & running although there may be a snag or two as the software is figured out.. The graphics look wonderful on them...

The new banners are awesome for every day & Christmas, that adorn the walls and adds color & pizzazz to the walls, sanctuary. The church was really decked out..

## **Health Joys with Concerns**

2019 found many of our members taking turns being in the hospital this year..

Jeff Elkins, was in hospital for heart issues, and he continues feeling his spunky self with each new day..

Art & Rose Lenig spent a few days in the hospital, not at same time, They have their good & bad days.. They both seem to be bouncing back and as sassy as ever.....

Mike Harris, was diagnosed having Colon Cancer in January & the tumor removed in February. His December Colonoscopy showed all came out good and that the Dr would see him again in 2 years...

Virginia Bradford, had back surgery several months back and after a rocky recovery has been back to church and singing in the Choir..  
Missed You!

Bruce Melton is bouncing back slow but steady from Back surgery...

Scott Thieme is back to church after his bouts with lung infections & inflammations.. Good to have you back in Church..

Pam Dixon has finished her chemo treatments, and tests showed no cancer lingers. Every 3 weeks she will still undergo follow up treatments to keep her cancer at bay..

Bill Dare diagnosed with lung cancer, has finished his Chemo and is looking forward to getting back to normal life..

Bobette Elkins, waited until Jeff had recovered before she had rotator cuff surgery, although still getting therapy, she is back to her bubbly self..

Alice Lenig, was diagnosed with breast cancer, and underwent surgery, she is one tough cookie and is doing good.

Joe Knowlton had a few procedures done this year & is getting back on track to begin 2020...

Susan Knowlton spent a few days in Memorial hospital for a pulmonary embolism, She is struggling a bit but glad she can be in church, more often than not... & to hear her glorious voice in the choir...

The Krivak house is getting better rest now that Grant had his tonsils and adenoids out, and now sleeps without any interruptions.. Mike & Gretchen need more sleep now that Grant has extra energy now that he sleeps so good.

Olivia, grand daughter of Janice Stroud & great grand daughter Margaret Rimmer, had her tonsils out, and being young bounced back quickly..

Donna Cain was diagnosed with Breast Cancer, and had a chemo treatment, that was a bit rough on her, so she is receiving immune Therapy treatments now.. Hang tough, Miss Donna...

Dave Schaefer spent a couple days in hospital in November with Sepsis of skin & Cellulitis, He has rebounded from that, but his bone on bone knee continues to plague him... But he remains as ornery as ever....

After almost 3 months battling Pneumonia, Harold Carlson, was feeling good enough to be able to get back to Church the last Sunday of 2019.. It was certainly

WONDERFUL, to have him back...  
Missed you!

Although not in hospital those mentioned below still struggled with health issues...

Margaret Rimmer struggled with a health issue, but she has been back to church & is feeling a bit more chipper....

Deb Harris was having foot issues, and was seen limping & gimping along for a few weeks, but finally with less time on her feet at her new job her tootsies are feeling much better...

Iva Wasielewski, has been receiving treatment by "horse" pill, for her leukemia, as well as shots in her eye periodically after her macular degeneration flared, and most recently a bad infection in the heel of her foot.. But that doesn't slow her down, limping a bit, she can still be seen doing her janitor duties ... Just call her "Chester.."

### **Prayer for Continued healing**

Dearest Father, we thank You for the healing that has begun in our church and among our members. We know that it is Your desire that we pray specifically for issues that wear heavy on our hearts.

Creator of all that is good, we pray that You continue to heal those in our church family, who need Your touch. May they know the fullness of Your power, grant them patience as they live the renewed strength you provide. Amen.

Try as one might we may overlook someone, please forgive & let us know & we will put recognize in next Newsletter...

*With Deepest  
Sympathy*

*Jesus stretched out  
His loving hands  
and welcomed*

*these friends & family members onto  
the shore of heaven...*

**With Loving Remembrance of lives  
well lived & ended too soon...**

Sadness Hit RPUMC early in 2019...  
when 3 of our long time members,  
who were card playing friends for  
many years were called home... We  
will Miss them!

01/ 23/2019, Barb Nickerson  
Mother MaryAnn Webb, Dottie Sue  
Jim/Davis & Terry/Joann Nickerson

02/11/ 2019 Betty Corbin, mother  
Linda/Steve Everingham, Peggy/Jim  
Webb, Connie/Jeff Smith, &  
Mike/Sue Corbin

02/22/2019, Duane Williamson,  
Father of  
Wendy Williamson Blair /Mike..  
Our hearts are sore as We  
remember them and other family  
& friends of our members.. who  
were called home & are now at  
rest in the arms of Jesus:

01/21/2019 Bill Routson, friend of  
Bill & Jean Dare

01/31/2019 Winifred Melton,  
Bruce/Penny Melton Mother

Steve Gray cousin Sherry/Paul  
Iwaszewski

3/25/19 Joanne Daley,  
mother Chance/Lynsey Daley

05/2019 Frank Chlupacek, Jr,  
Brian Barker nephews of  
Joe & Susan Knowlton

6/29/2019 Bonnie Barning, mother  
Carrie/Harold Carlson

6/29/2019 David B. Wasielewski,  
grandson of Iva Wasielewski

7/15/2019 Betty Schimmel, sister  
Jeff/Bobette Elkins

7/17/2019 Phillip Hemminger, cousin  
of Bobette & Jeff Elkins

8/28-2019 Kathy Hemminger, cousin  
Bobette & Jeff Elkins

8/31/19 Warren Harris, Mike / Deb  
Harris brother

9/2/19 Otto Theime Uncle  
Scott Thieme/Karen

9/8/19 **Flo Bauluricki**  
Shirl Sater's Sister

9/18/19 Donna L. Brown – Sister of  
Mary Kessler, Aunt of Pam Pask..

9/23/19 Betty McIntyre – long time  
member, reunited with her love,  
Richard... Mother of Susan (Craig)  
Anderson and Michael (Pam)  
McIntyre...

10/3/2019 Barbara Bealor– long time  
member, reunited with her love,  
Clifford & son Raymond.. Mother of  
Paul/Barbara, Tim/Connie, Joan/Dan

10/7/2019 Brian Bradshaw -  
grandson-in-law Arthur & Rose Lenig

10/9/2019 Charles Van Schoyck  
husband of Sharon, father of  
Steve/Kayla Vogel....

11/21/2019 Bob Lenters brother of  
Ann Riedstra

12/23-2019 Bobby Hughes,  
Brother-in-law Sue Hughes

Father God, we thank You for lives  
well-lived. Each of these Saints has  
given us a piece of them, that we

share with the world as we daily  
serve You.

We thank You for the gift of eternal  
life and especially for these who have  
served You well, resting now from  
their earthly journeys.

During this last year, You have  
welcomed our loved ones with open  
arms. Continue to bless them, each  
precious to You for eternity.  
Let us recognize how special it is to  
be called "Children of God", and to  
know we are guided by Your strength  
and love. Amen

Let us begin this New Year, 2020,  
with this simple Prayer...  
Please Heal the Broken,  
Whether mind, body, or spirit..  
Make well, the Sick, Restore  
Happiness to those in despair.  
Bring love to the Lonely,  
food to the Hungry  
And peace to our world. AMEN!!

Just before going to print we  
received the latest edition of  
**Lutz Lore 2019**



## LUTZ LORE 2019

Merry (Belated) Christmas and Happy New Year from The Lutzes!

**Phil and Malinda** are still coping with their various health issues. Malinda continues to share her music ministry at the two local nursing homes and at church once a month. She is now in the liturgist rotation at church, too. Thanks to the staff at Heritage Health and Transitions Hospice, Phil's Christmas wish of attending worship at Gibson City UMC came true on December 22.

**Tom** is in his 28<sup>th</sup> year teaching chemistry at North Montgomery High School; to continue teaching the college dual-credit chemistry class, he has to get his master's degree (in "teaching chemistry"), so he's also going back to school. He again coached 8<sup>th</sup> grade football in the fall and is now a varsity assistant coach for basketball. He still plays the bass guitar at church and hikes state parks as much as he can.

**Ellen** is in her 6<sup>th</sup> year as Health Sciences Librarian at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, which means she earned continuing appointment (the librarian version of tenure) in the spring. She was persuaded to extend her time as worship committee chair for another year and still sings in the choir and enjoys crafting in her spare time.

We had another enjoyable video chat with the Weiss family in Germany on Christmas Day. **Daniela & Edmund** have both had some changes with their jobs, **Tobias** is working on an apprenticeship, **Kilian** is finishing his last year at gymnasium, and **Moritz** turned 16 the end of December.

As always, we are thankful for all of our family and friends. We wish you all a happy and blessed 2020!

Love,

Phil, Malinda, Tom & Ellen

**Phil Lutz**  
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**Don't leave voicemail – he doesn't check it!**

**Malinda Lutz**  
545 S Guthrie St  
Gibson City, IL 60936  
**Cell phone: 765-414-6809**  
**Text messages welcome!**  
**NO email or Facebook**

