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The Flame

of Burns Memorial Methodist Church

January 2024

On Fire for Christ

Issue Number 216

From The Pastor

January 2024 is an important time for our community here at Burns Memorial Methodist Church. Not only is it a new year, but we are also beginning a new era for Burns (no longer UMC). So it seems fitting at such a time as this that we consider again what our mission is as a church. What does God want us to do as a people?

We have long lived under the UMC Mission Statement, “*The mission of the Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.*”

The Global Methodist Church, which we may join at some point, states, “*Our Mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ who worship passionately, love extravagantly, and witness boldly.*”

These are both nice, the GMC is better, but really, our Lord Jesus Christ has already given us a mission statement. From Jesus last words in the gospel of Matthew,

18 Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

The gospels give us the account of Jesus, sent into this world by the Father Almighty. In the text above we read that the sent one, Jesus, is now the sending one. He is sending us. As the UMC and the GMC both recognize, we are sent to “make disciples.” Jesus words tell us how to accomplish his mission: Go, Baptize, Teach.

In 2024 let’s embrace Jesus’ final command and great commission. Let’s become a “**going**” people, going beyond the walls of the church, to the various communities of Augusta and beyond. Let’s become a “**baptizing**” people, sharing the good news of repentance and faith and new life in Christ, and calling on people to make an outward commitment to their faith through baptism. And let’s become a “**teaching**” people -- teaching by **sharing** Jesus’ ethics, parables, truth; and teaching by **showing** what it looks like when someone follows Jesus’ teachings.

Jesus said to his disciples, make more disciples. This is still the mission of the church. Let’s accept and embrace the mission Jesus gave us and may working toward it guide our decisions in 2024.

THE MISSION: MAKE DISCIPLES
1) GOING 2) BAPTIZING 3) TEACHING



Christmas Festivities
with our Burns
Church Family!

The Flame Deadline: January 21st

Grace & Peace, Pastor John

Community Meals: Because we just like eating together!

Family Night Supper

Join us Wednesday Night, January 17, for a wonderful supper of Fried Pork Chops; Home Made Mac & Cheese; Cream Corn; Tomato, Cucumber and Onion Salad, Rolls and Dessert. It’s \$8 for 13 yrs. and up, \$4 for 4-12 yrs. and 3 and under eat free! We hope to see you there!

Fellowship Lunch

Following the worship service on January 21, all are welcome to a wonderful lunch in the Family Life Center. The meat this month is Beef Brisket. Come join us and please bring a side to share!

There Are Many Committee Meetings in January

As we start a new year, we like to see our church committees get organized. Few items to keep in mind:

- Many are new to the committees, so leaders, please start meetings with a time explaining the purpose and role of your committee.
- Everyone on the committee will be notified/reminded of their meetings. Outgoing leaders are encouraged to attend the first meeting so that we have a sence of continuity.

FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY SCHOOL

Join us at 10:30 AM Sunday mornings as we share, study and encourage one another! Our curriculum for January is as follows:

- January 7**, “The Wisdom of the Magi”, Proverbs 2:8-9, Matthew 2:1-12.
- January 14**, “The Marks of True Wisdom”, Genesis 50:15-21, Proverbs 2:11-12.
- January 21**, “A Discerning Mind”, 1 Kings 3:3-15, Proverbs 2:3-5
- January 28**, “All Glory to God”, Proverbs 2:3-5, Daniel 2:14-30

BIBLE STUDY

We learn more together! A new year is a great time to join the church Bible Study. We offer both an on-line class, Tuesdays at 6 PM, and an in-person class, Wednesdays at 10 AM. We will start back the first week of January, and we are continuing the exciting study of Isaiah. All are welcome!

Morning Movers

Exercise is good for the heart, mind, and soul! And it is more fun with friends! Join us in the Family Life Center weekdays at 10:30 AM (11 AM on Wednesdays). This is strategically planned so that you exercise before lunch!



J	A	N	U	A	R	Y	F	R	I	E	N	A	C	E
F	R	I	E	N	D	S	Y	A	S	R	I	L	A	H
N	E	Y	S	E	R	T	I	E	M	O	W	B	L	C
B	S	I	L	Y	F	A	E	N	E	I	Y	A	E	O
N	O	C	R	N	V	N	V	E	Y	D	L	B	N	U
A	L	D	C	L	O	C	K	L	T	I	E	Y	D	N
R	U	V	E	W	M	I	D	N	I	G	H	T	A	T
V	T	O	A	S	T	W	S	N	O	L	Y	I	R	D
G	I	A	N	I	N	G	S	E	V	E	U	A	R	O
C	O	N	F	E	T	T	I	T	M	I	N	G	S	W
R	N	O	L	C	E	L	E	B	R	A	T	I	O	N
A	J	A	N	U	E	L	V	E	I	M	K	E	R	A
Y	P	A	R	T	Y	H	A	A	P	Y	S	E	V	W
N	E	W	Y	E	A	R	C	L	O	K	S	O	R	Y
S	H	A	P	P	Y	E	B	A	L	L	R	E	S	O

BABY	FAMILY	RESOLUTION
BALL	FRIENDS	TOAST
CALENDAR	HAPPY	
CELEBRATION	JANUARY	
CLOCK	MIDNIGHT	
CONFETTI	NEW YEAR	
COUNTDOWN	NOISEMAKER	
EVE	PARTY	

