

Son Times

A Word from Pastor Chris

How often do you stop to intentionally reflect upon your life and to consider your choices and actions? The Greek philosopher Socrates is credited with uttering the famous line, "The unexamined life is not worth living" when speaking about just such intentional reflection. In the Old Testament, God becomes frustrated with His people and their faithless actions and rebukes them through the prophet Haggai by commanding the people to "Give careful thought to your ways.!" ([Haggai 1:5](#)) Yet, how often do we really do this? How often do we "give careful thought to our ways?"

Even those most faithful to God occasionally need to pause and reflect by questioning how actions and choices are shaping the direction of their lives. It's so easy to get caught up in the routine of life, moving from one commitment to the next, without ever stopping to ponder where we're going and where we should be doing.

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January 2017

*Monthly Newsletter of
Parrish United Methodist*

Church Office:

12140 69th St. East
P.O. Box 375
Parrish, FL 34219

Tel: (941) 776-1539

Fax: (941) 776-9450

Email:

Office@parrishumc.com

Website:

www.parrishumc.com

Publication: Son Times

December 2016

Published Monthly

By: United Methodist Church of Parrish



SUNDAY SERVICES

8:15 Traditional Worship

9:45 *CrossLight*

11:11 Blended Worship

9:45 AM Sunday School For All Ages

Nursery available

Coming Events

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Activity Calendar

- ✝ 1/05 Leadership Team Meeting 6:00 PM
- ✝ 1/07 Food Distribution Day 11:00 AM
- ✝ 1/08 Blood Drive 8:30 AM ...
Will Workshop 12:30 PM
- ✝ 1/10 GriefShare 4:00 PM
Stephen Minister's General Mtg. 7:00 PM
- ✝ 1/11 M.O.P.S. 9:30 AM
- ✝ 1/12 Thrift Cottage Board Meeting 9:00 AM
- ✝ 1/12 Administrative Team Meeting 7:00 PM
- ✝ 1/18 Mother's Morning Out (M.O.P.S.) 9:30 AM
- ✝ 1/21 Food Distribution Day 11AM ...
Free Community Lunch
- ✝ 1/24 Stephen Minister's General Mtg. 7:00 PM
- ✝ 1/24 - 1/28 Church Directory Pictures Taken
- ✝ 1/25 M.O.P.S. 9:30 AM

SAVE the DATE

2nd Annual PUMC CELEBRATION SUNDAY!

FEBRUARY 12, 2017

Mark your calendars for the 2nd Annual PUMC Celebration Sunday! Come worship with us on the lawn and have a nice meal afterward. Watch the bulletin in the upcoming weeks for more information.

NEW PICTORIAL DIRECTORY

It's time for a **NEW PICTORIAL DIRECTORY**. As Parrish United Methodist Church is growing there are many new faces. Photos will be taken Tuesday, January 24 through Saturday, January 28 and Friday, February 10; Saturday, February 11. We encourage everyone to be part of this church wide family directory. Anyone who attends is part of our church family and encouraged to participate.

We need your help with this major project in any of the follow ways:

- Publicizing our directory event
- Contacting our families
- Helping with portrait appointment sign ups
- Greeting our families during photography
- Candid photography for our directory's activity pages
- Creative design ideas for our new directory

A Word from Pastor Chris Continued

The beginning of a New Year provides an opportunity for each of us to pause and reflect.

To that end, here are 15 questions to ask prayerfully consider at the beginning of 2017 (credit to Don Whitney, *Associate Professor of Biblical Spirituality at [The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary](#), for these questions*).

What's one thing you could do this year to increase your enjoyment of God?

What's the single most important thing you could do to improve the quality of your family life this year?

In which spiritual discipline do you most want to make progress this year, and what will you do about it?

What is the single biggest time-waster in your life, and what will you do about it this year?

What is the most helpful new way you could strengthen your church?

For whose salvation will you pray most fervently this year?

What's the most important way you will, by God's grace, try to make this year different from last year?

What one thing could you do to improve your prayer life this year?

What single thing that you plan to do this year will matter most in 10 years? In eternity?

What area of your life most needs simplifying, and what's one way you could simplify in that area?

What's the most important need you feel burdened to meet this year?

What habit would you most like to establish this year?

Who is the person you most want to encourage this year?

In what area of your life do you most need growth, and what will you do about it this year?

In what area of your life do you most need change, and what will you do about it this year?

The value of these questions is in creating opportunity for both reflection and action in our lives. We must look honestly at what has been in a way that can shape what is yet to come. We do this through prayer and dependence on God who is at work in each of our lives to create in us an "instrument for special purposes" (2 Timothy 2:21). I encourage you to keep these questions someplace visible as a reminder to periodically reflect on your choices, decisions, and opportunities in light of your faith and God's work in your life.

God Bless in this New Year.

Chris



I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone that contributed in any way to the Christmas cantata.

Countless hours were spent in rehearsing, narration, set design, set up, take down, sound, CD's, slides, projection, parents getting their sweet children to rehearsals, Susie Huggins working with the children, advertising, posters, so much more, and the prayers that were lifted- all contributed to share the Christmas Joy.

We look forward to new members joining the choirs. We have plenty of openings for those that want to sing praises to the Lord.

We will soon begin working on the Easter cantata and look forward to all that want to take part in it.

Easter is just around the corner, looking forward to what they will do on Palm Sunday!!

Sing praises to the Lord,
Kimla Miner

Push pins!!

There is a new supply of push pins on the bulletin board in the Gathering Place. Please take one and place it on the world map to indicate where the blanket you chose at the November blessing is giving comfort. A couple of thank you notes have been received and several verbal stories have been told about how much the blankets mean to the recipient. "Really? Your church makes these blankets for people like me?" It's heartwarming to hear the blankets truly do make a difference: "I am comforted when wrapped up in the blanket".



As long as we have a supply, there will be blankets on the table in the narthex. Thanks to all who contributed during 2016 with yarn, money, and finished blankets and quilts. Blessings for 2017.

**Our Church
Family**



GriefShare begins Tuesday, January 10th at 4:00 PM in Room 123

GriefShare is a special weekly seminar/support group for people grieving the death of someone close. It's a place where you can be around people who understand how you feel and the pain of your loss. At GriefShare, you'll learn valuable information that will help you through this difficult time in your life. This program is open to anyone living in the area who is dealing with grief. GriefShare program is 13 weekly sessions.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED! This is not only for our congregation. We solicit your help in finding persons who have lost loved ones and would benefit from GriefShare. It is a Bible-based, non-denominational, nationally-known program with videos using grief experts from all over the country.

The PUMC Thrift Stores wish you and yours a very happy and healthy 2017.

We would thank all of our donors and customers for all their support which have made 2016 a very successful year.

While you are making plans for the new year, please include some volunteer time for the thrift stores. We a variety of positions as well as flexible hours if you have one, three or more hours which can be filled with true joy of mission, keep us in mind. Contact Phyllis

Children's Ministry

Ethel Pawley

A new year is here and as our children go back to school it may seem that Christmas and all of its festivities are becoming a vague memory. As our children start to reconnect with their friends we can help them learn the value of contentment. There is no doubt that one of the most important topics of conversations will be: what did you get for Christmas? As innocent as this question may be, it can quickly become a way that children can start to compare themselves to one another based on material possessions. This type of comparison quickly leads to envy and discontentment. Ultimately it reveals a lack of gratitude and that one is more focused on oneself than others. It is a trap that we all find ourselves in from time to time.

Even in a culture of comparison, we can find contentment when we take the necessary steps to train ourselves and our children to practice gratitude. Step One: Recognize your own discontentment. When you're open and honest about your own struggles, you're better equipped to help your children with theirs. Step Two: Lead by example. Before helping someone else, it's best to start by helping yourself. It's easy to see comparison struggles in your children, but the same issues may surface themselves in your daily life. Step Three: Do a mental reboot. Encouraging words may be great, but actions go a long way in taming your tendency to struggle with comparison. Consider using the control-alt-delete process:

- *Control* your thoughts. Catch those uneasy notions at the onset.



Sunday Kids' Hour at 9:45 and 11:11 am prepares children to grow in their faith as they learn about the life of Jesus. We will learn about the time Jesus was at the temple with the Pharisees, His baptism, His first miracle at the wedding celebration and when Jesus meets with Nicodemus. Our Bible verse is: "God so loved the world that He gave His



MOPS has gotten off to a great start. We are working on our service project of "no sew" blankets for children in crisis. Wednesday, January 4th, we will start the new year with a field trip for moms and all their kids at the Parrish Fire Department. Our MOPS meetings will start on Wednesday, January 11th, 9:30-11:30 am. More information is available on our Face Book page, MOPS PUMC.

Kidz Nite and Kids.com Music Workshop

Mark your calendars: Wednesday, January 11th, 6:30-8:00 pm, is the date that we will resume our Kidz Nite and Music Workshop activities.

It's back...

Family Game Night

January 13, 2017

6:30-8:30 pm

Join us for a great potluck meal, family games and fun!





A huge "Thank You!" goes out to over 100 volunteers who helped to make this year's *Living Nativity* a wonderful event for our community! From building sets, designing and sewing costumes, baking cookies, making dinner, helping park cars, greeting visitors, serving cookies and hot apple cider, entertaining guests, helping children with crafts, guiding tours, narrating scenes, acting in drama, singing and more...there were many wonderful people who made the weekend extra-special for over 1000 guests. Thank you for all your hard work and dedication! We pray that our collective efforts helped to bring God's joy, peace and love to the Parrish community at this time of year.





...bringing Jesus Christ into the lives of teenagers through Bible study, prayer, and fellowship.

“Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.” Romans 12:10-11

Part of being in a youth group, or any group, is doing life together. Celebrating victories, sharing frustrations, holding each other close in times of difficulty, praying for one another, and sharing God’s love are some of the experiences that we share together. As we enter a new calendar year, we will have plenty of opportunities to connect with God, with each other, and with others. For starters, we will “kick off” the new year with a fun kickball game on January 11th, complete with pizza for any and all youth who can join us. Our church Family Night will be Friday, January 13th, and we invite you to come and bring your family for a potluck dinner and games. Next, our Confirmation Class will run on Wednesday nights from January 18th through February 22nd during our regular time (6:30-8:00pm). While these students are meeting, the rest of the youth students will begin a new series, “VIVID” which will help us put their faith into action and live a live of vivid faith. Come see us in January to get involved!



Family Night at PUMC

Friday, January 13th

6:30-8:30 pm

Bring your family, a dish to share, and

Confirmation Class

This spring’s Confirmation Class is designed for any students in the sixth grade or above who are ready to explore their faith and prepare to become members of the church. **Confirmation Class 2017** will begin on Wednesday, January 18th (from 6:30-8:00 pm) and include a weekend retreat at the Warren Willis Camp February 24-26. Please contact Julie at mcaughton@parrishumc.com or call

Upcoming Events:

Jan. 4	No Youth Group
Jan. 11	Kickball Night
Jan. 13	Family Night
Jan. 18	Confirmation Class #1
Feb. 24	Confirmation Retreat

6th–12th graders are always welcome to join us in the Youth Hall from 6:30-8:00 pm on Wednesdays. We mix in fellowship and games in with our Bible lesson and would love to see you there! Please feel free to contact us with any questions you may have at mcaughton@parrishumc.com.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR SATURDAY MARCH 18, 2017

Parrish UMC will host a Car Show as an OCC Fund Raiser!

Calling all Vendors & Volunteers to assist with many tasks on the day of this event!



ATLANTA OCC Processing Center – The next step in a shoebox journey. Lots of prayers cover the shoeboxes as each Volunteer prays for and thinks of the child that will get the gifts.

The Atlanta Processing Center has a goal of 1.6 Million boxes!

NEW MEMBERS welcome! Become a Part of OCC--Join us in 2017 for our first full year of OCC Ministry. Be a part of this growth and share *God's word with all the little children of the world.*

Next Meeting: TUESDAY JANUARY 10TH at 6:30 pm in the WESLEY ROOM

PUMC Birthday Calendar

January 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Bill Crusselle Tom Lewallen Jennifer Shellito	2 David Beshore Barbara Geuy Lynn Mercer Abigail Whitaker	3 Bill May	4 Colt Baldwin Peggy Harber Jessica Parrish Abby Zisk	5 Bethany Cook Nan Dickinson	6 Bill Boneham Ehan McRoberts Angel Miller Bailey Mosley Chester Simoni Noel Mullins	7 Caleb Willis Kay Prairie
8 Wyatt Harris	9	10 Becca Cotton Bob Juday	11 Alyssa Call Vincent Souza Susan Reimann	12 Ed Cressy Richard Gordon Joy Karaga	13 Linda Baker Ray Cook Karen Gordon Kyle Kerns Charles Parker	14 Shelley Jander Dennis Spangler Nancy Krejci
15 Nate Eisenheimer Bryce Gill	16 Bianca Jarvis Chloe Jarvis	17 Darlene Smith	18 Susan Wiedmeyer Judy Wise	19 Sally Leeper Mary Lynne Powers Don Randolph	20 Jeannette Beckett Lisa Wise Jim Goemmel	21 Jenna Albrecht Robert Hanson Alexis Orlowski
22	23 Clayton Gill Peg Saltz Sophia Byrd	24	25 Edwin Brewster Elaine Weir	26 Ethel Wright Sebastian Schopfer	27	28 Warren DeWitt Joyce Leonard Alan Young
29	30 Pat Norris Ryann Panico Joan Steele	31 Jack Achurch Lenore Stewart Tyler Floore				

PUMC Activity Calendar

January 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 EACH SUNDAY: Traditional Worship 8:15 AM Contemporary Worship 9:45 Blended Worship 11:11 AM	2	3 7:00 AM Worship Design 10:00 AM Bible Study 6:30 PM Stephen Minister Training	4 6:30 PM Bible Study	5 6:00 PM Leadership Team 7:00 PM Choir Practice 8:30 PM CrossLight Practice	6	7 11:00 AM Food Distribution
8 8:30 AM Blood Drive 12:30 PM Will Workshop	9	10 7:00 AM Worship Design 10:00 AM Bible Study 4:00 PM GriefShare 6:30 PM Stephen Minister Training 7:00 PM Stephen Ministers	11 9:30 AM MOPS 6:30 PM Youth Ministry 6:30 PM Kidz Nite 6:30 PM Bible Study	12 9:00 AM Thrift Cottage Mtg 7:00 PM Choir Practice 7:00 PM Admin. Team 8:30 PM CrossLight Practice	13	14
15	16	17 7:00 AM Worship Design 10:00 AM Bible Study 6:30 PM Stephen Minister Training	18 9:30 PM MOPS-Mother's Morning Outing 6:30 PM Youth Ministry 6:30 PM Kidz Nite 6:30 PM Bible Study	19 7:00 PM Choir Practice 8:30 PM CrossLight Practice	20	21 11:00 AM Food Distribution 11:00 AM Community Lunch
22 2:00 PM Stephen Minister Workshop @ First Presbyterian Church	23	24 7:00 AM Worship Design 10:00 AM Bible Study 6:30 PM Stephen Minister Training 7:00 PM Stephen Ministers	25 9:30 AM MOPS 6:30 PM Youth Ministry 6:30 PM Kidz Nite 6:30 PM Bible Study	26 7:00 PM Choir Practice 8:30 PM CrossLight Practice	27	28
29	30	31 7:00 AM Worship Design 10:00 AM Bible Study 6:30 PM Stephen Minister Training				