

Son focus

PARRISH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
JANUARY 2018

A Word From Pastor Chris

Dear Members and Friends of Parrish United Methodist Church,

God specializes in giving people a fresh start!

Rick Warren

The celebrations and busy-ness of Christmas have now passed, the New Year has come, and we begin to settle back into the familiar rhythm of life that so often changes during the month of December. But with the holidays now behind us a sneaky but persistent thought can quietly enter the mind: *What will this New Year bring?* What will be new for us in this new year?

The New Year can often bring a mixed bag of emotions and memories for many of us. Some may have just experienced the best year ever and look forward to even greater things yet to come. Others may have just trudged through one deep struggle after another. The fresh calendar year brings a desperate hope for things to be better; an ache for the hurts of the past year to heal and that better days are yet to come.

Whether you've just walked through the greatest year of your life, or are incredibly glad to see this one finally over, one truth still rings clear amidst it all. You are not alone. Not ever. Let the pronouncement of Christmas be your hope and strength throughout this year to come:

'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel', which means, 'God is with us.' -- Matthew 1:23

Our God is a "with us" God. On the heels of the celebration of the birth of our King, that reminder has the power to carry us right into a fresh, new start. He is Emmanuel, God with us. And though things and people around us shift and change, our God never changes. My prayer is that the year to come is your best one yet. If you are longing for a fresh start I pray you find that which you seek. But whatever highs and lows are to come, remember in the triumphs and the struggles you are never alone. I pray that is our ultimate hope and strength.

Blessings in the New Year,

Chris

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Office Hours

Mon.-Thurs.:

9 AM - 4 PM

Friday:

9 AM - 12 PM

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Sunday Services

8:15 Traditional Worship

9:45 *CrossLight*

11:11 Blended Worship

9:45 AM Sunday School For All Ages

Nursery available

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Coming events:

- ✝ 01/01 HAPPY NEW YEAR
- ✝ 01/04 Leadership Team Meeting 6:00 PM
- ✝ 01/09 GriefShare Begins 4:30 PM
- ✝ 01/09 Stephen Minister's Meeting 7:00 PM
- ✝ 01/10 M.O.P.S. 9:30 AM
- ✝ 01/11 Thrift Cottage Board Meeting 9:00 AM
- ✝ 01/11 Administrative Team Meeting 7:00 PM
- ✝ 01/12 Family Night 6:30 PM
- ✝ 01/13 Food Distribution Day 11:00 AM
Community Luncheon 11:00 AM
- ✝ 01/16 New Bible Study Begins 10:00 AM
- ✝ 01/17 New Women's Bible Study Begins 6:30 PM
- ✝ 01/23 Stephen Minister's Meeting 7:00 PM
- ✝ 01/27 Food Distribution Day 11:00 AM
Community Luncheon 11:00 AM



Living Nativity 2017 was a wonderful event for our community despite the imperfect weather conditions. Over 100 volunteers helped to build sets, assemble costumes, make dinner, bake cookies, welcome visitors, serve refreshments, guide tours, narrate scenes, act in the drama, entertain guests, help children with crafts, sing, deck the halls and more...there were many, many wonderful people who made the weekend extra-special. 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.





Route 66 Youth

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

Youth Leaders – Joe & Julie McNaughton

A new year. A fresh start. It's the season to make your new year's resolutions and try to stick to them, at least for a few weeks. Some of these resolutions can be very difficult to maintain throughout the year because they are promises that you have made to others or to yourself. But have you thought of God's resolution to us? His promise to be with us and to extend grace and mercy to us? One of the best resolutions that I can make this year is to remember God's promise to me that He will be with me. That is what we celebrate at Christmas and should resolve to remember all year long. As Matthew quoted from Isaiah, *"The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us.")* Matthew 1:23. God is with us; throughout the ups and downs in life, the joys and the challenges, He is present.



Family Night at PUMC

Friday, January 12th

6:30-8:30 pm

Bring your family, a dish to share, and your favorite game for an evening of fun!

Youth Group will take a break on Wednesday, January 3rd and resume on the 10th with a three-week series on holiness. We will discuss what holiness is and how the Bible calls us to holiness. Join us January 10-24 for this new study. We will also host our camp fundraiser on Sunday, February 4th, so plan to be there if you are considering attending camp this summer. More details on camp will be available in February. Come see us in January to get involved!

Upcoming Events:

Jan. 3	No Youth Group
Jan. 10	Kickball Night
Jan. 12	Family Night
Jan. 26	College Connection
Feb. 4	Pancake Breakfast

6th–12th graders are always welcome to join us in the Youth Hall from 6:30-8:00 pm on Wednesdays. We mix 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 mчнаughton@parrishumc.com.

GriefShare

GriefShare begins Tuesday, January 9th
at 4:30 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.

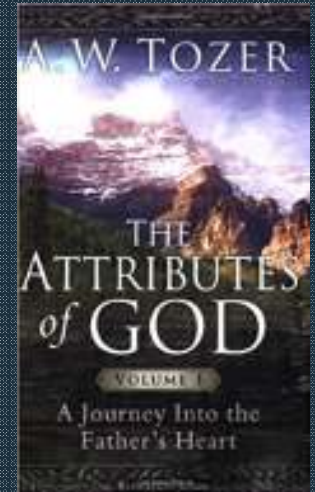
YOUR HELP IS NEEDED! This is not only for our congregation. We solicit your help in finding persons who have lost loved ones and would benefit from GriefShare. It is a Bible-based, non-denominational, nationally-known program with videos using grief experts from all over the country.

New Bible Study

Beginning Tuesday, January 16th at 10:00 am
in *Room 123*

Led by Patricia Hamilton

Please join us as we study *The Attributes of God: A Journey Into The Father's Heart*, written by A.W. Tozer. Tozer's writings are steeped in Scripture and filled with the Spirit with striking clarity and power. His writing is personal as he helps us understand how the word of God influences our lives. This is a 10 week study. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board in the *Gathering Place*.



New Women's Bible Study

Beginning January, 17th at 6:30pm
in *Room 123*

Led by Toni Schmidt

We all want to be known and loved. Though we can experience deep relationships with others, there will always be a hole in our hearts for the perfect love of Christ. But, what does that really mean? How do we pursue intimacy with an invisible God? What if we do not feel worthy of His love? How can we respond when troubles kidnap our security in Christ?

In six powerful sessions, author and Bible teacher Lisa Harper walks women through the Song of Solomon to answer those questions and more. Though romance and marital love are typically associated with this book, Lisa takes a Christ-centered approach to illustrate how this ancient love story is relevant to your life and relationship with Jesus today. As she brings clarity to the text and as you watch real-life stories from other women, you will learn how to embrace God's perfect love and realize your own beauty and worth in God's eyes. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board in the *Gathering Place*.

Nursery available.



Children's Ministry

Ethel Pawley



Kids' Hour – 9:45 & 11:11 AM Sunday Mornings

Our adventure through the Bible continues as we will be learning that God sent Jesus to tell us about God. We will learn about the Magi's joyful experience as they worshipped Jesus and John the Baptist's experience of great joy when he baptized Jesus. Our story about Jesus blessing the children will teach us that Jesus gives us joyful hearts.

Jesus, the Greatest Prophet, gives us joyful hearts.
Anchor Point God sent Jesus to tell us about God.
Memory Verse "This is truly the prophet who is coming into the world." John 6:14



Kids Helping Kids

As our mission project, we are collecting items for the homeless children of Manatee County. This will be an ongoing project and items will be collected weekly in the classroom. Items can be full size or the smaller sizes, they must be unused. This is a great opportunity to teach our children the value of helping others. There are bags and lists in your child's classroom.

Kidz Nite

Kids.com Music Group

Starting on Wednesday, January 10th, we will be meeting from 6:30-8:00 pm in Room 112 for the Kids.com Music Workshop and Kidz Nite activities.

We will be learning new songs, playing instruments, and starting to prepare for our Easter Musical. You don't want to miss out on this fun time of learning, singing, playing games, making crafts and yummy snacks. Best of all you will be enjoying all this fun with your friends!

Mothers' of Preschoolers

Join us for our MOPS meetings on Wednesday, January 10th and 24th from 9:30-11:30 am.

January 10th, Kirsten Jones will be giving us great ideas on how to prepare delicious meals that are nutritious, cost effective, and easy.

January 24th, Debbie Schultz will be giving us great insight about the Seven Habits of Highly Effective Families.

As always there will be good food, time for sharing with each other and building friendships.

Child care is provided.



The Official 2018 PUMC
Family Winter Olympics
Friday, January 12th
6:30- 8:30 PM

Each family brings a main dish to share that best represents the country of your family's heritage.

Side dish and desserts will be provided.

Please bring your family's favorite board game and be prepared to participate in a series of Winter Olympic games. Invite your friends for a fun evening of good food and friendly competition.



Prayer Blanket Ministry

Thank you from all the knitters, crocheters and quilters who benefited from the variety of donations during 2017. Those donations made a big difference in the outreach of the Prayer Blanket Ministry. With the holidays behind us, we will be hard at work producing more blankets and quilts.

Operation Christmas Child Fundraiser

PUMC's OCC Team Fundraiser at Culvers on 64!

Funds raised are for "SHOES THAT GROW"

This event is on Wednesday, January 31st from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Contact Patsy Kadlec (941-212-7244) or Bethany Cook (941-779-4211) if you have any questions. **NO COUPON IS NEEDED** - Just you enjoying yummy food and Culvers custard!



PUMC Activity Calendar

January 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 HAPPY NEW YEAR!	2 7:00 AM Worship Design	3 6:30 PM Bible Study 8:00 PM Renovation Practice	4 6:00 PM Leadership Team 7:00 PM Choir Practice 8:30 PM CrossLight Practice	5	6
7	8	9 7:00 AM Worship Design 4:30 PM GriefShare 7:00 PM Stephen Ministers	10 9:30 AM MOPS 6:30 PM Kidz Night 6:30 PM Youth Ministry 6:30 PM Bible Study 8:00 PM Renovation Practice	11 9:00 AM Thrift Cottage Mtg. 7:00 PM Choir Practice 7:00 PM Admin. Team 8:30 PM CrossLight Practice	12 6:30 PM Family Night	13 11:00 AM Food Distribution 11:00 AM Community Lunch
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21	22	23 7:00 AM Worship Design 10:00 AM Bible Study 4:30 PM GriefShare 7:00 PM Stephen Ministers	24 9:30 AM MOPS 6:30 PM Kidz Night 6:30 PM Youth Ministry 6:30 PM Women's Bible Study 6:30 PM Bible Study 8:00 PM Renovation Practice	25 7:00 PM Choir Practice 8:30 PM CrossLight Practice	26	27 11:00 AM Food Distribution 11:00 AM Community Lunch
28	29	30 7:00 AM Worship Design 10:00 AM Bible Study 4:30 PM GriefShare	31 6:30 PM Kidz Night 6:30 PM Youth Ministry 6:30 PM Bible Study 6:30 PM Women's Bible Study 8:00 PM Renovation Practice	<p>EACH SUNDAY: Traditional Worship 8:15 AM Contemporary Worship 9:45 Blended Worship 11:11 AM</p>		