



Kingswood
United Methodist Church
Messenger

January 6, 2019

Epiphany of the Lord

*Do all the good you can; By all the means you can;
In all the ways you can; In all the places you can;
At all the times you can; To all the people you can;
As long as ever you can.
~ John Wesley (1703-1791) ~*

Sermon: "WHAT KIND OF LIGHT ARE YOU?"

Text: Isaiah 60:1-6; Matthew 2:1-12

Sermon Theme: This Sunday is Epiphany Sunday, the day we celebrate the arrival and visit of the Magi, who followed the light of a star. It is the day we remember that because Christ came, because the Light of the World entered our lives, we are called to reflect His light in the world. The prophet Isaiah said of Christ's coming: "Arise; shine, for our light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon us." Jesus himself said: "Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven." We have been given the Light of Christ, for our own illumination, but also that we can pass it on to others. We are called to live as children of light in the darkness of this world.



Ushers: Mike Stone & Jerry Williamson co-leaders, Bernie Carpenter, Eric Couch, J. D. Hoots, Jamey Hughes, David Piercy & Michael Saunders

Music: Madeline Griggs – Director, Sarah Butler – Organist, Debbie Pappalardo – Pianist

Sunday School Nursery: Mike & Pat Stone; next week - Mike & Pat Stone

Worship Nursery: John & Trudy Cox; next week – John & Trudy Cox

Promises: Allison Cardwell; next week – Ashleigh Lucas

Flowers: next week - open

Promises – Following "Moments with the King's Kidz," our children ages 3-6 (1st grade) are invited to the Promises Worship Room. We will focus on the New Year and new beginnings. This will help the children learn about the seasons we celebrate during the Christian year. They will be returned to the sanctuary during the closing hymn.

Worship Kits – There are inspiring worship enhancing activities available to all children as they enter the sanctuary. Please return the kits and all its contents at the end of the service.

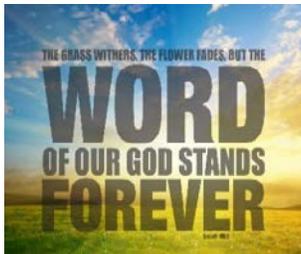


Sunday	10:00 am 10:55 am 6:00 pm	Sunday School Welcome/Worship Youth gathering
Monday	6:30 pm	SPRC meeting
Tuesday	6:30 pm	Prayer/Bible study
Wednesday	7:00 pm	Choir rehearsal
Saturday	9:00 am	Make chicken pies

Kingswood Matters



Nothing can take the place of a daily devotional life with Christ. Your quiet time, your prayer time, and the time you spend in the Word, is absolutely necessary for a happy Christian life. You cannot possibly be a content, dynamic, and powerful Christian apart from a daily walk with Christ.



“O God, you are my God, I seek you, my soul thirsts for you...”
(Psalm 63:1)



A New Year!

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (Galatians 5:22).

If you’ve ever been to a workout gym during the first week of January you’ve noticed that the place is packed. Ninety percent of the people there have made New Year’s resolutions and they are making good on that. But come back a couple of weeks later. You may just have the place to yourself. Each week, there are fewer and fewer people in the gym. By February you no longer must wait in line to use a machine or get a spot on the bench press. Overall, the average New Year’s resolution lasts less than a week, especially the health club ones. While I think it’s a great thing to resolve to improve one’s physical health, I decided years ago to, instead, concentrate on improving my spiritual health.

Every day, the sun rises, and a new day comes. Soon the stillness of the dawn will be exchanged for the noise and the hustle and bustle of the day. The quietness of solitude will be replaced by the pounding of the human race. We will be invaded with decisions to be made and deadlines to be met. For the next twelve hours, we will be exposed to the day’s demands. Because of Calvary, we are free to choose. And so, I choose.

I choose love... No occasion justifies hatred; no injustice warrants bitterness. Today I will love God and love what God loves. Today I will even love the unloving – even those who choose not to love me.

I choose joy... I will invite God to be the God of my circumstances. I will refuse to allow anything to take away my happiness. I refuse to see any problem as anything less than an opportunity to see God and what He can do.

I choose peace... I will live forgiven. I will forgive others so that I may live with a clear conscience. I will sow harmony, reconciliation, and friendship everywhere I go if it is at all possible.

I choose patience... I will overlook the inconveniences of the world. Instead of cursing, I will find something to praise and give thanks for. Instead of gritting my teeth when things don’t go my way, I will face them with reverence and piety.

I choose kindness... I will be charitable to the poor and disadvantaged, for they are alone. I will be courteous to the rich, for they are afraid. I will be compassionate to the unkind, for such is how God has treated me.

I choose goodness... I will go without a dollar before I take a dishonest one. I will be overlooked before I will boast. I will confess before I will accuse.

I choose faithfulness... I will keep my promises. My debtors will not regret their trust or question my word. My wife and family will not question my love for them.

I choose gentleness... Nothing is won by force. I choose to be meek and gracious. If I raise my voice may it be only in praise to almighty God. If I clench my fist, may it be only in prayer. If I make a demand, may it be only of myself.

I choose self-control... I am a spiritual being. After this body is dead, my spirit will soar. I must maintain discipline and refuse to let anything rule the eternal. I will be drunk on Christ and only Christ. I will be impassioned by my faith and my salvation. Christ is my Lord and Savior and nothing in this world will ever change that.

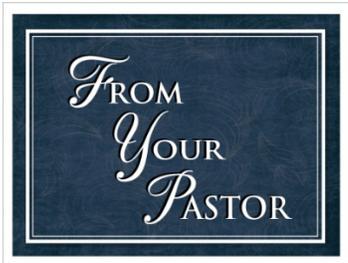
Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. To these I commit my new year. If I succeed, I will give thanks and give God the glory. If I fail, I will seek His grace and forgiveness. And then, when this new year is done, I’ll start all over again in 2020!

HAPPY NEW YEAR, my church friends. May God richly bless us all!

With fond thoughts and prayers,

Pastor Jeff

What's Happening



To Kingswood Church,

I am truly humbled by the outstanding love and generosity through the Christmas gift you gave me recently. Words cannot adequately explain how grateful I am. In the past three years since becoming your pastor, I have been amazed at the close friendships we have developed and the work we have accomplished together. As we enter this new year, I hope to express my appreciation through my prayers and service for you. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for your courtesy. May God bless you for the love you've shown me.

~ Pastor Jeff



Thank you for supporting our Rural Hall families this Christmas. We appreciate your generosity and kindness.

Sincerely,

Rural Hall Elementary Staff



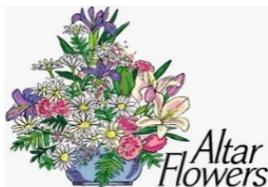
The family of Harry Grubbs thanks the congregation of Kingswood for their outpouring of love, care, concern, cards, visits and food during Harry's Trellis in-home care. The lunch before his funeral was so good and so appreciated by all his family.

The continued support and love you have shown me since Harry's funeral has kept me going. Thank you.

Love, Barbara



The 2018 accounting books will be closed out on January 7. Please submit any invoices or receipts for reimbursement to the church office as soon as possible.



The 2019 flower chart is in the church office window. Please sign up to provide altar flowers to celebrate an occasion, or in memory of a loved one.



Following is the next four weeks' Promises schedule:

Jan. 6 – Allison Cardwell
Jan. 13 – Ashleigh Lucas
Jan. 20 – Trudy Cox
Jan. 27 – Courtney Winfrey



We will meet this Sunday at 6:00 pm.



As you bring your monthly food donations, please add some socks, gloves, a toboggan or a blanket to help the homeless in our community deal with the winter cold. Imagine having to face the winter chill without these items. We and the Kingswood Preschool will be collecting these items during the months of December and January. Let's do our part to help those in need stay as warm as possible.



- **Sunday School** – this is where faith and life connect! We have great Sunday School classes for ALL ages. You are encouraged to join a class. How about doing it this Sunday? A nursery is provided during Sunday School. Please join us each Sunday at 10:00 am. You won't regret it!
- **CDs** of Sunday worship services are available in the church office.
- **Pastor Visitation** – if you desire a visit from Pastor Jeff please feel free to call him directly at 336-416-5869, or let the church office know.
- **Pastor Jeff's Prayer/Bible Study** – Come and be a part of this study on the parables of Jesus on Tuesdays at 6:30 pm. We are beginning a lesson of "The Great Feast" from Luke 14:15-24. Prayerfully consider this spiritual discipline in your weekly plans. Please make note: We do not meet on the first Tuesday of the month.
- **Announcements** – if you have information to be included in this publication, please send your suggestion to: kingswood@triad.twcbc.com by Wednesday of each week.

"The Weekly Messenger" is published and sent via E-mail on Thursday of each week to those who have provided the church office with their E-mail address.
There are also printed copies on the table in the narthex.

Grace and Blessings!

We hope to see you this Sunday at Kingswood

Office hours: Tuesday & Wednesday 9:00 am – 2:30 pm, Thursday 9:00 am – 2:00 pm. Closed Mon. & Fri.

Church Phone: 336-969-5437

Church E-mail: kingswood@triad.twcbc.com

Parsonage Phone: 336-969-5232

Pastor Jeff's Cell: 336-416-5869

Pastor Jeff's E-mail: revjsypole@gmail.com