

# FRIENDSHIP UNITED METHODIST CHURCH NEWSLETTER

## January 2018

### A Clean Slate as the New Year Starts?



The new Church Calendar started December 3, 2017 and will continue until December 1, 2018. The Gregorian calendar, which has been adopted by most countries in the world for civil purposes, begins on January 1, and continues through December 31, 2018. We will welcome the Gregorian New Year on January 1, 2018. Many people think about making new year's resolutions as a new year begins, seeing it perhaps as a clean slate and an opportunity to make plans to be a better person. They may look back on their life and see things they want to change. Perhaps they will choose to be intentional at putting plans in place to achieve a specific dream or goal. Each New Year gives the feeling of a clean slate. Therefore, many people make resolutions, so this year is better than or as healthy as the last. Sometimes we choose to look at what we've already promised to ourselves and others, and renew that commitment.

During teachable moments this Sunday, I will reflect on New Year's resolutions and why many of those resolutions are quickly put aside. Some people think, "Oh, it is just a promise I made to myself, it is no big deal if I don't do it." Promises made to God, to others, and to "myself" are all significant. In Jesus coming to dwell on the earth and then die to draw us into a renewed relationship with God, we can become an adopted son or daughter of God. This means we are very valuable to God! We are worth keeping our promises to ourselves just as the promises we make to one another and to God are worth keeping.

Think about promises you made in the past to God, to the Church, to others, and to yourself. Which are worth continuing to pursue, which need to be dropped to make room for other promises and goals?

Elsewhere in this newsletter is a reminder of the promises we made specifically to God and Friendship when we joined this Church. How are you doing in keeping these promises? What will you do this year to continue keeping them? What specific steps will you take to keep growing in your relationship with God? We are on the threshold of a new year, let's be intentional as we go through 2018.

In the name of the Christ Child, who deems you valuable,

Nellie

### You are Part of the Good Work at Epworth

When you contribute to Epworth special offerings, which we receive at Friendship on Mother's Day, you make a difference in the lives of children who come to Epworth, usually when they are in crisis. One of those individuals is a young man who came to Epworth at the age of 17, after a series of troubling childhood experiences. As he settled into a new school, he earned a part-time job in the Epworth dining hall after school. Gradually he began to develop a sense of who he is and began to have hopes for his life that seemed achievable thanks to the support of the Epworth staff and the witness of other youth at Epworth. Currently he continues to work on his high school studies, but he has moved on to a new upgraded job at a locally owned restaurant just a few blocks from Epworth. His work ethic and friendly outlook have earned him a promotion to a front of house position where he works directly with customers. He also has job shadowed another restaurant owner to learn more about the many responsibilities of running a business. He enjoys working in the restaurant world so much he has decided to explore this as a future

career path, with the dream of opening his own place one day!

Thank you for giving to Epworth offerings and for praying for the children and staff who live and work at Epworth. God is using you to improve lives for those whose lives have been filled with difficulty and often times with broken promises, before their arrival at Epworth.

*(Adapted from volume 120, issue 4, 2017 The Epworth Record)*

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**Thank you** Friendship family and community for responding this past year to the call of service. You helped feed those in need of a warm meal, offered fellowship to those who so often feel invisible, and provided clothes and supplies for the local homeless and our schools. As we move into 2018, may we continue to respond to opportunities God presents to serve in His name. ~ Donna

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### House of Agape Meal Ministry

We have tried to be proactive and have a list of team captains for the House of Agape meal ministry for the entire year.

January 18	Joyce Newman
February 15	Sandy Ransom
March 15	Chapman Family
April 19	Donna Williams
May 17	Hal & Sylvia Kennedy
June 21	Janis Long
July 19	Chapman Family
August 16	Lynne Tyner
September 20	Sandy Ransom
October 18	Chapman Family
November 15	Sara Thompson
December 20	Donna Williams

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A Job Function Workshop will be held at Wesley UMC ([110 W Jefferson St, York, SC 29745](http://www.wesleyumc.org)) on January 7, from 2:30-4:30pm. Pastors and lay leadership from across the district are invited to attend. Workshops will be held for Nominations and Leadership Development, Pastor – Parish Relations Committee, Finance, and Trustees.

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If you are interested in being a worship leader or serve communion, please let me know. It adds so much to the service having laity involved. ~ Joyce Newman

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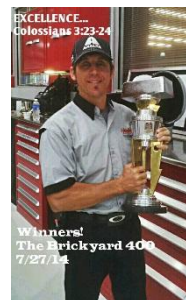
## Friendship UMC Welcomes Hendrick Motorsports Chaplain



Donnie is a full-time Chaplain at Hendrick Motorsports through Motor Racing Outreach. He is an ordained minister and speaker who takes his life experiences and shows how the Gospel is relevant for us today.

Donnie Floyd  
January 23, 2018  
6:30 p.m.

Donnie is a full-time Chaplain at Hendrick Motorsports through Motor Racing Outreach. He is an ordained minister and speaker who takes his life experiences and shows how the Gospel is relevant for us today.



Donnie is a Gulf War Veteran, a former Police Officer in the city of Rock Hill, and he spent 18 seasons as a crew member on the NASCAR race teams of Terry Labonte, Brian Vickers, Casey Mears, Jeff Gordon, Kyle Busch, Kasey Kahne, Mark Martin, Dale Earnhardt Jr., and Chase Elliott.

He has taken part in over 188 wins, traveled the race circuit, and received seven Championship rings from Jimmy Johnson.



Donnie believes God can take us on a journey for the purpose of using us for the building of His Kingdom. His passion is evangelism and he believes that God wants to use us right where we

are. Donnie is youthful, educated, funny, transparent, and he believes we must tell this generation the truth of the gospel.

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### WORSHIP NOTES, JANUARY 2018

**January 7** Remembering the Epiphany of the Lord  
**Scriptures:** Matthew 2:1-12); Ephesians 3:1-12  
A Wise Man and Herod will share a monologue this day as well.

**Sermon:** *Amazing Grace*

**Theme:** God's amazing grace reaches the world, not just the people of Israel.

**January 14** Celebration of the Baptism of the Lord

**Scriptures:** Mark 1:4-11; Acts 19:1-7

**Sermon:** *Baptism: A Tool for Being Spiritually Prepared*

**Theme:** We participate in baptism for a variety of reasons. The key reason is to be spiritually prepared by remembering that baptism is something God does on our behalf. God baptizes us to welcome us into to family of God, to encourage us to remember that God wishes to wash us clean from sin, to remind us that God is our source of power and strength, to call us to enjoy our relationship with God, and to remind us that God provides us with spiritual nourishment and well as protection in every way we need it. When we remember our baptism, remember who God is, and who we are, we remember that God gives us everything we need to be spiritually prepared throughout life.

**January 21** Third Sunday after Epiphany

**Scripture:** John 1:43-51; I Samuel 3:1-10, 19

**Sermon:** *The Gift of Listening Ears*

**Theme:** Hearing is a wonderful gift. Sometimes we develop problems with our hearing and need aides that will assist us in hearing. Other times, we don't hear, not because there is anything wrong with our hearing, but because we have stopped listening to the voices and sounds around us. To listen to God and to listen to one another is too important to take it for granted.

**January 28** Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

**Scripture:** Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Mark 1:21-28

**Sermon:** The Source of Jesus' Authority

**Theme:** Jesus healed people and commanded evil spirits. What is the source of his power and authority? The answer is reflected in his relationship with God and with people, and with his willingness to give his all – whatever the consequences.

***Happy Anniversary***

Ken & Sheila Sanders 1/09  
Jim & Cynthia Ashley 1/15

***Happy Birthday to***

Ciji Vinson 1/01  
Hadley Welch 1/05  
Pat Felmet 1/06

Cassie Paolone	1/06
Larry Sanders	1/08
Glenn Williams	1/08
Jamie Williams	1/09
Tinsley Williams	1/09
Deborah Deal	1/12
Charles Larsen Jr.	1/15
Jeffrey Fickes	1/20
Keith Hoke	1/20
Tom Weaver	1/23
Kelsey Duncan	1/24
Robin Fickes	1/26
Hailey Helms	1/28
Marie Williams	1/28



**Worship Leader** – Frank Caldwell

**Greeter** –

**Communion Servers-** Sara & Randy

**Money Counters**

January 7 Ethel & Sara  
January 14 Ethel & Sara  
January 21 Ethel & Sara  
January 27 Ethel & Sara

**Cool Church –Leader-**

January 7 Tony Jackson  
January 14 Patricia Cloninger  
January 21 Pat Bowling  
January 27 Preston Starkey

**Nursery Ministry**

January 7  
January 14  
January 21  
January 27