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# January 2019

## A New Perspective to Triumph in 2019

Each year comes to us with new possibilities and new challenges. Every one is given another 12 months, 52 weeks, 365 days, 8760 hours, 525,600 minutes and 31,536,000 seconds as we call the year 2019. How we use our time is up to us. I wish all of us use our time wisely. Personally, I wish to see this year to be a year that you will take over your city, your God given assignment.

St. Paul's instruction is to forget what is behind and strain towards what is ahead. As we enter into the New Year in the Gregorian Calendar or Christian New Year, it is time for us to thank God for the year past and look ahead to triumph. We might have good times and bad times, frustrating times and fun times, but one thing for sure God showed himself faithful and trustworthy through it all. I am sure He will continue to be faithful to you, our church and our community.

In the mythological tradition of ancient Roman Religion, the New Year celebration is attributed to Janus. Janus is the god of beginning and transition. Janus is also known as god of gates, doors and doorways, ending and time. Janus had two faces looking opposite directions. Obviously, several nations and people with other religions have their own celebrations and observances. For the Christians the New Year celebration begins with Advent. In some Christian traditions, New Year's Eve is a wonderful time for Christians to get together and celebrate the completion of another year of life, and welcome in the New Year with prayer and rejoicing. New Year's Day is an opportunity to rest and relax, and a great time to prayerfully set goals for the year ahead.

In the 6th chapter of Joshua, God commanded Joshua to take the city and Joshua was given specific instructions. His obedience would determine if he would experience the thrill of victory or a defeat. The body of Christ is in Joshua season or some call it a Joshua generation. To take the city you and I need to adapt to a new mindset, perspective, attitude and a new belief system. A city is a living organism that grows, feels, reacts, loves, hates, restores, transforms and dies. A city is a place to be taken over, occupied and controlled. You might have experienced rejection and mockery. Many people might have told you that you are not good enough and not a good fit to achieve or pursue your dream. You might be different; who doesn't fit into others' shoes, prediction and conventional expectations differs. The wind can't destroy or take away your life until you complete your assignment in the city. The oppositions in your life should fuel a passion to pursue the purpose in your life. When God is all you have, then all you have is all you need. You only need to activate the power of God and your attitude determines whether you will take possession of your inheritance, your city or remain defeated. Stop being an expert of failure in the year 2019.

Don't allow our attitude to determine or limit God's blessing; God wants us to go far beyond what you and I can ask or think. Your dreams are only the beginning of what the Lord can do in your life. He wants to exceed our limited expectations and provide abundance according to His power and promise. We are living in an age when the demand is great for the Body of Christ to recover all that has been stolen by the enemy. Drugs, sexual immorality, crime, suicide, corruption, rebellion, pride, economic distractions, enslavement, persecutions and so on and so forth need to be destroyed.

Take time in this early part of the New Year to pause and look back, thanking God for His blessings. The Bible reminds us "Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father" (James 1:17). Commit this coming year—and your whole life—to Jesus Christ. You can depend on God's promise because He said: "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you" (Hebrews 13:5). The invitation is to develop a new perspective to triumph.

**Happy New Year 2019**  
**Pr. Binu Peniel**



Come join us for Bible Study at **9:15 a.m.** on **Sunday** mornings. Pastor Binu is leading an Alpha bible study. The Alpha course is an evangelistic course which seeks to introduce the basics of the Christian faith through a series of talks and discussions. It is described by its organizers as "an opportunity to explore the meaning of life".



The Worship Committee will be meeting on Wednesday, **January 9** at **7:00 p.m.** to plan the services for January-February and discuss any other matters of concern.



Monthly **Food Pantry** Day is **January 11**. We will have our **King's Closet** upstairs at the Annex. We have clothes, other small items or produce for local people to take and use, if they need it. Bring items all month. It comes in free and goes out free, no charge. Anything left over will be taken to Good Will or South Side Missions.



The 2019 offering envelopes are now available on a table in the hospitality hall.



John Schaer is still collecting **ALUMINUM CANS** to recycle. **CANS** only, no aluminum disposable pans or other items. You may leave them in the entry area of the river side of the church or call John at 822-8770 if you would like him to pick them up. When he gets a truck load, he takes them to the recycle center. Not only will this help the earth, but the money will go to the Church account.



10:30 a.m. **WORSHIP SERVICE HELPERS** are still needed. If you are interested in ushering, reading scripture, greeting or being an acolyte, please sign up on the Schedule Sheet in the back of the sanctuary.

We still need one **SUNDAY SCHOOL** teacher. We are working towards having two teachers per class. Please talk with April Nauman if you'd like to help. Please help us raise the next generation of Christians.

The **PRAISE AND WORSHIP TEAM** is looking for singers and musicians. If you have any interest learning more, please contact Jarrod Doty at church, by email at [jdoty69@gmail.com](mailto:jdoty69@gmail.com) or by phone at 657-8904.

Dennis Hill still wants to work with small groups for **MUSIC SPECIALS**. There is room on the signup sheet for other specials (solos, duets, reading, etc.). If you are interested, please contact Judy at 822-8770 or 645-6625.

**NURSERY—PAID POSITION.** Need an adult to assist/oversee the nursery on Sunday mornings. See Matt Freeman or Ron Call if you are interested or know of anyone that might be or if you would like additional information.

Judy Schaer needs someone to **PRINT THE BULLETINS** for 5 Sundays in January-February while she does a little 'snow birding' and 'R and R'. See her if you are interested in backing her up.

Pastor Binu is seeking **SCRIPTER READERS**. Please sign up on the sheet on the table in the back of the sanctuary. The new sign-up sheets for the whole year are in place. Also, if you are interested in doing a children's message, see Pastor Binu.



- ♦ The Newbern's are thankful for the donation of a T.V. (an answer to prayer)
- ♦ Dottie Francom, the daughter of the Jacobs, is home from the hospital. Surgery went well, thanks for the prayers.
- ♦ Orda Doty received JOY when a large group of her granddaughters came to her house and sang Christmas Carols to her.
- ♦ Doug & Dianna Delinski's daughter-in-law Nikki received her doctorate in 'Nursing Practice and Leadership' from Bradley University.
- ♦ Rachel Pleasant graduated from Eureka College with a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology.
- ♦ Megan & Denton Cox, daughter & son-in-law of Mike & Cindy Osenkarski, are expecting a baby boy in March.



Scan the QR code at the end of the newsletter with your smart phone or visit [riversedgeumc.org](http://riversedgeumc.org) where you will find the newsletters, calendars and announcements regularly. The committee wanted pictures to depict the life of our church. If you see pictures that you are in and would like them removed, please let Judy Schaer know. **Submitted by: Communications Committee**

## Lighting the Advent Candles



### 5 THINGS YOU CAN DO FOR DISASTER RESPONSE

**1. Pray for those whose lives have been impacted by this disaster.** Please also pray for Early Response Teams, disaster coordinators and the many volunteers who are working tirelessly to provide relief.

**2. Make relief kits.** Download the packing list and shipping label at [umcor.org/UMCOR/Relief-Supplies](http://umcor.org/UMCOR/Relief-Supplies).

**3. Give to UMCOR's relief and recovery efforts** at [umcor.org/donate](http://umcor.org/donate) (U.S. Disaster Response, Advance #901670; International Disaster Response, Advance #982450; Undesignated, Advance #999895).

**4. Donate requested items only.** To keep relief supplies in stock, give to Material Resources, Advance #901440 at [umcor.org/donate](http://umcor.org/donate).

**5. Please wait for an invitation to volunteer.**



The United Methodist Committee on Relief is grateful for your prayers and support.

**Text to Give:** UMCOR to 91999 • [umcor.org](http://umcor.org)

**Wildfires in California \* Hurricane Michael on the Gulf Coast - Alabama – W. Florida - S. Georgia  
Hurricane Florence \* Earthquakes and Tsunami in Indonesia \* Typhoon Mangkut**

### Midwest Mission



**Distribution Center**

The Midwest Mission Distribution Center of the United Methodist Church provides disaster relief supplies around the world. Supplies bought through DollarDays (<https://www.dollardays.com/midwestmission/wishlist.html>) would be the best way to donate, as they are shipped directly to MMDC at the Center's bulk prices. Any donations would be greatly appreciated. Monetary donations may be sent to:

MMDC, 1001 Mission Drive, Pawnee, IL 62558  
[www.midwestmissiondc.org](http://www.midwestmissiondc.org) | [office@midwestmissiondc.org](mailto:office@midwestmissiondc.org)

# January 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	6:30 p.m. O.U.R. @ Doug & Carlas	1 	2	3	4	5
6	7 6:00 p.m. Trustees	8 7:00 p.m. Ad Council	9 7:00 p.m. Worship Planning	10	11 9-11:00 a.m. Food Pantry/ King's Closet	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



*Our Motto* "The Church That Cares"

## Our Mission

"Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."

## OUR VISION

"Our vision is to meet the physical and spiritual needs of our neighbors through our witness, welcome and nurture ."

### WORSHIP SERVICES:

Sunday 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

### NURSERY:

Sunday 8-11:45 a.m. (infant-kindergarten)

### SUNDAY SCHOOL GROUPS : 9:15-10:15 a.m.

D.O.C.K. (Preschool – 5th grade)

Youth (grades 6 – 12)

Sunday Morning (All Ages)

### CHOIR PRACTICE: (7th grade-Adult)

September through May

7 p.m. Wednesday evenings, as announced

### O.U.R.: Outwardly Upwardly Righteously

(first Sunday of month)



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