

Bellringer

Sherman Avenue United Methodist Church January 2019

SAUMC Church Vision 2019

Growing our church requires vision, thought and strategy. Successful churches follow God-given visions and missions as they define the steps and execute the strategic plan. Here are the steps we plan to take in 2019:

- **Create an Inviting Atmosphere**
People like to be proud of where they worship. While we sometimes equate this with well-stocked restrooms, clean surfaces and freshly vacuumed carpets, the important thing is to invite people spiritually.
- **Create a Welcoming Experience**
It can be awkward for a church visitor to come into a new church. We want a welcoming experience while not overwhelming them. Say Hi and thank them for joining us.
- **Care for Church Members**
We care for our church members every day. Sometimes it's a phone call or visit to see how they are doing. Sometimes it's a card expressing support and encouragement. Sometimes it's helping to cope with life-changing events. The goal is to support their needs.
- **Provide Opportunities to Serve**
Our core is a desire to serve others. Jesus did it and as Christians, we need to help people. We serve meals to the homeless, organize mission trips and help others in times of crisis. We hope to engage younger members of the church in our on-going and future mission opportunities.

From the Administrative Council

I would like to thank the leaders of this church who sit on our Administrative Council and I encourage you to do the same as they give selflessly of themselves for the betterment of “our” church. Jolieth McIntosh, Amy Scott, Judy Kreft, Cyndy Hoffman, John Kreft, TouKou Khang, John Litweiler, Don Heinz, Pastors Luke Thao and David Hart, and last but not least Terry Wendt who retired as Head of Trustees at the end of 2018 after many years of service.

Thank you, Carol Hermansen

Thank you!!

The children, staff, parents and Board of Directors of Jabez Elementary School thank you for exhibiting, again, your extravagant generosity. Through your generous donations fifteen children are being sponsored this year. The quarterly “Jabez News” is available in the church office to keep you up to date on the activities of the school. If you have any questions please ask fellow Board of Director members, Jolieth, Bill or Steve.

Blessing to all of you. Have a very Happy New Year. Patsy McDonald

The Power to Choose by Veronica Berry

“Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.” Colossians 3:14

As you begin another new year, do you wonder what you can do to make your small piece of the world a little bit better? Do you hope for more peace and love in the world? Do you wish for new medical miracles like the eradication of diabetes, a cure for cancer to be discovered? And then do you think that it’s all too much for you to handle? What could you possibly do to make a difference in the world?

World peace may seem like an impossible dream, but we have the power to create it by embodying peace in our own lives. It is a state of being that begins within us. By being peaceful, we create peace. When we align our minds and hearts with God, we can turn within and connect with his infinite source. Centering in spirit our words and our actions naturally flow from a place of peace, so we interact with others calmly creating harmony in our lives and in the world.

We create our lives with our outlook, choices, thoughts, beliefs, and actions. What we choose to energize determines the tone of each day. We can choose to speak words of love to our friends, acquaintances, and family. We can choose to share smiles and kind thoughts to strangers. We can choose to help where we can and cherish every moment we have. We can choose to value all people regardless of their race, gender, or religion. We can choose to be an expression of God by seeing one another with non-judgmental eyes and unconditional love. We can choose to open our hearts to every opportunity the day will bring to share that love with others. We were put on this earth to share our good with others. We were divinely created to be channels through which flows life, joy, peace, and love to everyone who comes our way. We can be the light that keeps another soul from stumbling in the darkness. We can speak words of strength and offer comfort to those in need. We can share understanding, kindness, and compassion.

Our power resides in our ability to choose. No thought, situation, or circumstance can hold us back if we keep our focus on God. He is stronger than any doubt, fear, or self-limiting thoughts. When we align our thoughts with our highest good, we can envision health, abundance, love, and success. We can utilize our imagination to perceive possibilities that are not currently visible. Together with spirit we can create something even better than what we imagined.

All of us have the ability to make a difference in our world. God created us to share what love and kindness looks like. The essence of our being is infinite love. We can embrace this truth and believe that through God all things are possible. One kind act can be the catalyst in changing someone’s life.

Our world sometimes looks like hatred and fear have surpassed feelings of acceptance and togetherness. Sometimes it seems as if all hope is lost. But the power of God is insurmountable, and the love of Jesus Christ is unconditional. As long as we keep our focus on that, hope will never be lost, and we will always make a difference in this world, even better than what we imagined.

“God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.” 1 John 4:16

Connections by Craig Myrbo

We connect with each other through looking at the scriptures and looking at what is happening around us.

“Whatever you have done to the least of these. You have done that to me” Matthew 25:40

"The Lord proclaims: A voice is heard in Ramah, weeping and wailing. It's Rachel crying for her children; she refuses to be consoled, because her children are no more." Jeremiah 31:15

Christ Church Cathedral in Indiana recently launched its “Every Family is Holy” campaign with an initiative that places Mary, Joseph, and baby Jesus statues inside a cage on a church’s front lawn.

A 7-year-old girl from Guatemala died of dehydration and shock after she was taken into Border Patrol custody last week for crossing from Mexico into the United States illegally with her father and a large group of migrants

Many things have changed since Jeremiah’s time, since Jesus’ time. But some things have Not changed. We oppose immigration policies that separate family members from each other or that include detention of families with children, and we call on local churches to be in ministry with immigrant families.

What would Jesus do?

January 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Happy New Year!			2 4:30 Bible Study 6:00 Band Practice 6:00 Prayer Group 6:00 Meditation TC 6:30 Book Club	3 6:30 Choir	4	5 5:00 Men's Group
			6 8:30 Adult Sunday School 9:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School 11:30 Worship 12:30 Hmong Men	7 6:00 Cub Scouts 6:00 Boy Scouts 6:30 Speak Up!	8 6:30 Trustees 6:45 Communications	9 4:30 Bible Study 6:00 Band Practice 6:00 Prayer Group 6:00 Meditation TC 6:00 Boy Scout District
13 8:30 Adult Sunday School 9:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School 11:30 Worship 12:30 Hmong Women 3:00 Eastern Star meeting	14 6:00 Boy Scouts 6:00 Cub Scouts	15 6:30 Admin Council	16 4:30 Bible Study 6:00 Band Practice 6:00 Prayer Group 6:00 Meditation TC 6:00 Craft Night	17 6:30 Choir	18	19 11:00 Girl Scout Women's Week Reunion
20 8:30 Adult Sunday School 9:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School 11:30 Worship	21 6:00 Boy Scouts 6:00 Cub Scouts	22 6:30 Outreach & Missions	23 4:30 Bible Study 6:00 Band Practice 6:00 Prayer Group 6:00 Meditation TC	24 6:30 Choir	25 6:00 Hmong Ministry & Youth Bible Study	26 5:00 Hmong Women Song Practice
27 8:30 Adult Sunday School 9:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School 11:30 Worship	28 6:00 Boy Scouts 6:00 Cub Scouts	29	30 4:30 Bible Study 6:00 Band Practice 6:00 Prayer Group 6:00 Meditation TC 6:30 Theology of Consent Dinner with Rev David	31 6:30 Choir	Church Rummage Sale February 15 - 16	

January Birthdays

Jabrailen Rice	1/4
Elizabeth Lawler	1/9
Kay Nelson	1/18
Beng Lee	1/25
Mariyan Miles	1/25
Judy Madden	1/26
Jaye Limbach	1/26



These are the dates that are in the database. If you find that your name is not included with the Birthdays or Anniversaries, please call Matt Treadaway.

Please take a moment to remember our homebound members

Linda Jungbluth (B-day 7/11)
c/o Avalon Assisted Living
2875 Fish Hatchery Rd, Rm 11
Fitchburg, WI 53713-3177
608-274-4350

Justin Kramer (B-day 12/13)
1601 Wheeler Rd #208
Madison, WI 53704-7056
608-416-5343

Ralph Stinson (B-day 8/6)
4218 Green Ave
Madison, WI 53704-1124
608-244-6172

Christian Education Opportunities

Anyone interested in learning about God's love is invited to join any of these classes at any time.

Early Adult Sunday School meets on Sundays at 8:30 in the Youth Room.

Sunday School for All at 10:45 The Adult Class meets in the Choir Room. The Children's Class meets in the Youth Room.

Wednesday Bible Study begins at 4:30. This is an ongoing study of the Old and New Testament.

The Youth Group meets Wednesday and Friday. Please check the Bellingering and Bulletin for activities, topics and times.

Dinner with Rev. David will continue on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 6:30 in the Parsonage.

Mid-Week Meditation The call in number is 1-641-715-3836. The access code is 486727.