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FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

So what does God want from me in 2015?

A question that at sometime will come to the mind of most persons who try to live as a disciple of Jesus is: What Do You Really Want from Me, God?

It is not a new question and it is not a particularly Christian question. For thousands of years the followers of all types of gods have been asking this question: what does this god really want from me?

The question comes from our desire to make God happy, much as a child hopes to please a parent and in so doing win the approval and affection they so desire. Most of us at some level hope we are on God's good side and want to believe that will offer us some additional level of protection and if possible divine favor.

The prophet Micah writing in the early 700s BC asked this very question for himself and the people of God. What he got back was not one of God's mysterious and complex answers; no just the opposite. What he got back was a very clear and straightforward response found in Micah 6:6-8.

TO ACT JUSTLY
 TO LOVE MERCY
 TO WALK HUMBLY WITH YOUR GOD

As we begin 2015, we will spend the first few weeks in worship looking at the response of God to the prophet Micah and to us today, asking ourselves as we begin this New Year, "What does God require of me in 2015?"

To God be the Glory,
 Larry

**WEEKLY BULLETIN
 DEADLINE
 Wednesday
 10:00 a.m.**



February Compass Deadline is
 January 19th.
 THANKS!

Noisy Mission Offering



in
 January

is going to
**SIU WESLEY FOUNDATION'S
 MISSION TRIP TO HONDURAS**

Dear Participating Churches in the 2014 Spirit of Christmas Project

Thank you very much for participating in this year's Spirit of Christmas Project. Because of the commitment of the churches in this community to the Spirit of Christmas Project, we were once again able to provide gifts to over 923 less fortunate members of our community.

As the economy of this country continues to struggle and fewer people make church a priority in their lives, the success of this year's project would not be possible without the unselfish dedication and willingness by continuing members of the faith community to open their hearts to those who are less fortunate.

On behalf of the Interfaith Council and the Spirit of Christmas Project, please convey my sincere appreciation to all members of your congregation.

Sincerely,
 Dia Parr

- 1** *Happy New Year!*
- 3** 9:00 am Handbell Choir
- 10:00 am AA Meeting
- 5** 7:00 pm AA Big Book Meeting
- 6** 6:00 pm Cub Scouts
- 6:30 pm Praise Team Practice
- 7** 9:00 am Worship Team
- 5:45 pm Choir Practice
- 6:00 pm Boy Scouts
- 7:00 pm C/Y Spiritual Formation
- AA Meeting
- Al-Anon Meeting
- 8** 4:30 pm Girl Scouts
- 6:00 pm Disciple II
- 7:00 pm Scouts Roundtable
- 9** 10:00 am Feeder of the Pack
- 6:00 pm Daisys and Brownies
- 10** 7:30 am UMM Breakfast
- 9:00 am Handbell Choir
- 10:00 am AA Meeting
- 11** 2:30 pm Confirmation Class
- 5:00 pm Youth Meetings
- 12** 1:00 pm Nurture & Care
- 7:00 pm AA Big Book Meeting
- 13** Noon Young At Heart
- 6:00 pm Board of Trustees
- Cub Scouts
- 6:30 pm Praise Team Practice
- 7:00 pm Finance Committee
- 14** 9:00 am Staff Meeting
- 5:45 pm Choir Practice
- 6:00 pm Boy Scouts
- 6:30 pm Youth Ministry Team
- Publicity & Promotions Team
- 7:00 pm AA Meeting
- Al-Anon Meeting
- 15** 6:00 pm Disciple II



- 17** 9:00 am Handbell Choir
- 10:00 am AA Meeting
- 10:15 am Book Club
- 19** MEALS ON WHEELS WEEK
- 7:00 pm AA Big Book Meeting
- 20** 6:00 pm Cub Scouts
- 6:30 pm Hospitality Team
- Praise Team Practice
- 21** 5:45 pm Choir Practice
- 6:00 pm Boy Scouts
- 7:00 pm Service & Missions
- AA Meeting
- Al-Anon Meeting
- 22** 4:30 pm Girl Scouts
- 6:00 pm Disciple II
- 23** 6:00 pm Daisys & Brownies
- 24** 9:00 am Handbell Choir
- 10:00 am AA Meeting
- 25** Noon Our Neighbor's Table
- 3:30 pm Confirmation Class
- 5:00 pm Youth Meetings
- 26** 6:30 pm Newcomer's Committee
- 7:00 pm AA Big Book Meeting
- 27** 6:00 pm Cub Scouts
- 6:30 pm Church Council
- Praise Team Practice
- 28** 9:00 am Holy Folders
- 5:45 pm Choir Practice
- 6:00 pm Boy Scouts
- 7:00 pm AA Meeting
- Al-Anon Meeting
- 29** 6:00 pm Disciple II
- 31** 9:00 am Handbell Choir
- 10:00 am AA Meeting

Just a little note ...

Please remember if you are coordinating an event or activity that requires the distribution of materials, a sign-up, ticket sales, etc. it is important you have a representative available after both the Traditional Service and Praise Service so that all can be included. Thank You. The Worship Team

JANUARY 2015						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



OUR NEIGHBOR'S TABLE



LAST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

A NOTE OF THANKS

We would like to say a special thank you to the Disciple Builders for the recent work they provided at our home. Dan Bratton and his crew did an excellent job constructing a handicap ramp to our new porch. They put many days in and the work is top notch.

Thank you for your hard work and dedication. Ed & Jennifer O'Donnell
7:24 Ministries



Please remember the deadline for the February Compass is Monday, Jan 19th



DINNER FOR 8
What is it and why would I want to get involved in this new ministry?

Dinner for 8 is a new ministry that was launched during the late spring of 2014. The purpose is to connect people of the church with each other. You may sit in a pew with someone and have no idea who they are outside the church walls. Dinner for 8 can give you the opportunity to develop new and lasting friendships. Many of the individuals who participated in the "trial run" for dinner for 8 have developed friendships that will last much longer than the proposed four meals they attended.

If you have just recently started attending services at MUMC, or you are a long established attendee, or somewhere in between, this might be a project that seems interesting to you. In order to help you make a decision or just answer your questions, here are some facts that might be helpful:

Dinner for 8 was organized in the spring of 2014. The purpose was to help members of the congregation of the Murphysboro United Methodist Church get acquainted.

It is a simple dinner held at someone's home who agrees to be the host. There is a second couple who are also "long time" members of the congregation. Four others who may not be quite as connected are also invited. They can be couples or singles.

It has been suggested that they meet four times. The times and specific arrangements are made by the eight individuals involved in a particular group. There are no arbitrary rules or regulations.

It is for adults unless agreed upon by the group that children will be included.

If you are interested in participating in this dinner for 8, either as a host or guest, please contact us at wmwcof@frontier.com. We will keep you informed about when we will launch a second round of dinners for eight.



Jan 11 Regular Youth Meeting
 Jan 25 Regular Youth Meeting

- *CYF: Christian Youth Fellowship (3rd - 5th grade)
 Leaders: Irma Bigham & Jennifer Watson
- *JYF: Junior Youth Fellowship (6th - 8th grade)
 Leaders: Laurie Nehring & Shannon Vincent
- *SYF: Senior Youth Fellowship (9th - 12th grade)
 Leaders: Paula Chapa & Stephanie Finke

**Meetings are every
 2nd & 4th Sunday 5-6:30pm**



Ladies,
 Is your next step on the trail to strengthen your prayer life?
"PRAYING WITH SCRIPTURAL NARRATIVES"
 WITH GUEST LEADER JUDY LITTLE
 January 18th-February 8th
 at 8:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.
 Faithful Friends
 Sunday School Class
 Room 204
 Don't miss this opportunity!!

**January 13th
 12:00 noon
 Fellowship Hall
 Menu - \$5.00 charge**




friends, fellowship, faith.

**MENU TO BE ANNOUNCED,
 BUT IT WILL BE SURE TO
 WARM THE SOUL!**

Bring women's or children's hats, gloves, or scarves to donate to the Women's Center.

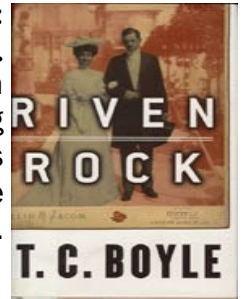
Please don't forget to sign up on the attendance pad!

**We will see you all on the
 2nd Tuesday of every month
 for a delicious meal and fun conversation.**



SATURDAY MORNING BOOK CLUB

January's discussion is:
Riven Rock by TC Boyle.



T. C. Boyle's seventh novel transforms two characters straight out of history into rich mythic figures whose tortured love story is as heartbreaking as it is hilarious. Blending social history with some of the most deliciously dark humor ever written, Boyle employs his hallmark virtuoso prose to tell the story of America's age of innocence—and of a love affair that is as extraordinary as it is unforgettable.

Saturday, January 17th at 10:15am in the church library.

THE LIBRARY CORNER: THE JOY OF AUDIO

Vanessa Lirely left a note in the library sharing some thoughts with us after reading (or rather hearing) one of the UMC library audio book CDs. Here is what Vanessa says:

"I listened to the audio CD of "The Purpose Driven Life." I really enjoyed listening to it in my car as I traveled. It gives my travel time more meaning when I am investing my time hearing other people/ministers give their viewpoint on the Bible and elaborate on their faith.

Please continue to invest in other audio books that can be listened to while traveling. Thank You."



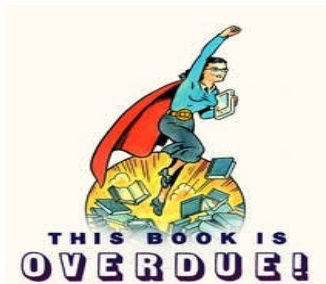
Good idea, Vanessa! Ideal times to listen to an audio book are when traveling, or when you are doing something at home that keeps your hands (but not your ears) busy. The library does have some audio books available, which can be found in the media shelves downstairs in the library. During the month of January audio books will also be on display on the library table in the upstairs hall. Some of the audio books the library has now:

- Fearless: Imagine Your Life Without Fear** by Max Lucado
- Twelve Extraordinary Women: How God Shaped Women of the Bible and What He Wants to Do with You** by John MacArthur
- Abraham: A Journey to the Heart of Three Faiths** by Bruce Feiler
- When the Game is Over it All Goes Back in the Box** by John Ortberg
- Dangerous Surrender: What Happens When You Say Yes to God** by Kay Warren
- Longing for God: Seven Paths of Christian Devotion** by Richard J. Foster and Gayle D. Beebe
- So Long Insecurity: You've Been a Bad Friend to Us**, written and read by Beth Moore

The Library also has some lighter audio "reading". Try **Light From Heaven**, which is one of the Mitford series books written by Jan Karon. Or try **Can't Wait to Get to Heaven** by Fannie Flagg.

And keep an eye out for some new audio offerings as time goes on.

LIBRARY NOTE: Do you happen to have an overdue UMC library book taking up space in your house? The first month of the New Year is a great time to clear out your space. Have a look around—maybe you thought you returned that book—but did you? Here's some "poetic" inspiration for you:



The Elusive Overdue Book

Maybe it slipped in with your other books
So finding it may take several "looks"
Check under the couch, or behind the door
Look under the bed and on the shelves near the floor
When you find it think how happy you will be
To return it to its old home in the church library!

O.K. nobody said it was good "poetic" inspiration. Maybe you better return those books before another one of these awful "poems" gets written!

JANUARY WORSHIP SERVICE SERVANTS	
TRADITIONAL	PRAISE
JAN <u>Worship Leaders</u>	
4 Rick Runge, rrunge@frontier.com	Angie Baughman, angie_baughman@hotmail.com
11 Rick Runge, rrunge@frontier.com	Ed O'Donnell, eod@edodonnell.com
18 Rick Runge, rrunge@frontier.com	Ed O'Donnell, eod@edodonnell.com
25 Rick Runge, rrunge@frontier.com	Ed O'Donnell, eod@edodonnell.com
JAN <u>Welcome Hostesses</u>	
4 Nancy McNitt	
11	
18	
25	
JAN <u>Greeters</u>	
4 Sharon Graff and Jack Cochran	Teresa Gilbert and Candy Watt
11 Sharon Graff and Jack Cochran	Teresa Gilbert and Candy Watt
18 Susan & Perry Patterson	Teresa Gilbert and Candy Watt
25 Susan & Perry Patterson	Teresa Gilbert and Candy Watt
JAN <u>Acolytes</u>	
4 Conner Twenhafel and Megan McNitt	
11 Drake Rogus and Maggie Jenkins	
18 Cadence Brown and Tyler Doody	
25 Ethan Finke and Ben Barringer	
JAN <u>Prayer Request Readers</u>	
4 Wilma Westerfield	Angie Baughman
11 Mary Jane Williams	Ed O'Donnell
18	Ed O'Donnell
25	Ed O'Donnell

JANUARY WORSHIP SERVICE SERVANTS	
TRADITIONAL	PRAISE
JAN <u>Liturgists</u>	
4 Allison Barringer	Brian Vincent
11 Pam Graham	Lacey Brown
18 Sally Moutardier	Dennis Goforth
25 Rosie Wece	Brian Vincent
Ushers	
Todd Lirely, Scott Ballard, Sandy Herring, Ralph Bastien, Dick Graff & Vanessa Lirely	Rick Pierson, Brant Wingerter and Matt Baughman
Sunday Stewards	
Todd Lirely, Francis Addison, Rick Pierson and Ricky Pierson	



3 Logan Ripley	19 Maddie Bean
	Andrew Erbes
4 Frank Boucher	20 Bonnie Whiteside
7 Susan Karnes	22 Teresa Gilbert
8 Cloyd Karnes	Breanna Graff
9 Mike Jones	24 Sandra Schlueter
10 Rindy Eisenhauer	26 Larry Jacobs
12 LaVernne Cline	27 John Erbes
15 Tyler Nimmo	Emily Hargraves
16 Barbara Hughes	28 Soo Jin Fager
17 Troy Brown	Barbara Woodward
18 Shari Biggs	31 Charlie Pierson



4 Trina & Bob Eaton
10 Tena & Allen Bigham
25 Sylvia & Robert Frank
31 Patti & Dean Shields

If your anniversary or birthday does not appear in the Compass, please contact the Church Office at 687-2317

Murphysboro United Methodist Church
1500 Pine Street
Murphysboro, IL 62966

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Murphysboro, IL
Permit No. 63

Return Service Requested

Murphysboro United Methodist Church
1500 Pine Street
Murphysboro, IL 62966

MUMC OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Phone: 618-687-2317 Fax: 618-687-2604
E-Mail: murphysboroumc@frontier.com

We're On The Web!
www.MurphysboroUMC.com



SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Traditional Service: 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School: 10:10 a.m.
Praise Service: 11:15 a.m.

Ministers.....The Congregation
Pastor.....Larry A. Gilbert
Coordinator of Ministries.....Earl R. Renshaw
Discipleship Coordinator.....Teresa Gilbert
Financial Secretary.....Christine Nolan
Church Secretary.....Deb Severa
Custodian.....Pat Sullivan
Organist.....Judy Little
Pianist.....Micah Mayes
Choir Director.....Ricardo King
Nursery Attendant.....Tania Cruz
Nursery Attendant.....Bridget Lewis