



# *the* Connection

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | WATKINS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH | JANUARY 2018

## ALL THE TIME, GOD IS GOOD

As we face the beginning of a new year, I am reminded of a saying that I often say, "God is Good, All The Time, and All The Time, God Is Good." It is my favorite saying about our relationship with God and as I have been praying about our new message theme; as we begin the New Year, God has impressed upon me to explore what that means for our lives as Christian Disciples, and what does that mean for our Church at the beginning of a New Year, as we continue to Follow Christ!

Since God is always good, what about those times of pain and suffering? Even during difficult times, I believe God wants to reassure us; he wants us to have hope and favor. Throughout history, many successful men and women are described as having God's favor — but what does that mean? Do favored people get special treatment and benefits that others don't get? When you have God's favor, you are his favorite. God's goodness and favor toward us though aren't based on our performance — it's based on what Jesus already did for us. In this series, we learn how to have God's favor on our lives by trusting him and we discover how God's goodness is the answer to worry, regret, indecision, emotional pain, and fear through the seven expressions of God's goodness taught through the 23rd Psalm.

During Jan/Feb we will also begin a Study on The New Testament using Disciple Bible Study! We had such a good response to studying the Old Testament and I Pray that you will join us for a continuation of studying God's Word beginning Wed. Jan. 10th. - 10:00 a.m. & 6:30 P.M. This will also begin the return of our W.O.W. Fellowship time, as we join each other for a delicious meal prepared by

## Church Events

- **Jan 1 Office closed**
- **Jan 7 Epiphany**
- **Jan 9 Lunch Bunch**
- **Jan 10 Pastor 's Study Groups and WOW start back up!**
- **Jan 12 Hand & Foot**
- **Jan 16 Faith Fellowship at Panera**
- **Jan 26 Hand & Foot**

the different Discipleship & Fellowship Groups in our Church!

I Praise God for the opportunity to serve God with you here at Watkins U.M.C. and look forward to what God will do through us this upcoming year as we journey together in His Favor and Goodness! God Bless You!

Jan 7th. - How Good Is God Psalm 23:1a

Jan 14th. - How to Let God Meet My Needs Psalm 23:1,2

Jan 21st. - Guest Speaker, Rev. Linda Million Pastoral Counselor

Jan 28th. - How to Be Led By God's Spirit Psalm 23:3

Feb. 4th. - The God of My Valley's Psalm 23:4a

Feb. 11th. - How Jesus Treats His Sheep Psalm 23:4b

Feb. 18th. - Living an Anointed Life Psalm 23:5

Feb. 25th - How God's Goodness Can Restore Our Soul Psalm 23:6

Remember, the best is yet to come!

John 2:10

Pastor Ken

## Troop 309

Troop 309 ended 2017 with a December filled with service, accomplishments and fun. We camped at Camp Crooked Creek and volunteered our services to help clean up many of the campsites during the Lincoln Heritage Council's Engineer Day there. We worked on rank advancements and merit badge requirements and recognized those boys at our Court of Honor on December 18<sup>th</sup>. We also had a fun evening at the Main Event playing all the laser tag, bowling, pool and high ropes course we could squeeze in the 4 hours we were there! We hope everyone had a Merry Christmas

We look forward to the New Year with an active Troop of 29 boys and 17 leaders. In January we will be finding our inner "Batman" by camping in a cave and spelunking (cave exploring) through some tight underground spaces our Leaders can attest to! Please mark February 19<sup>th</sup> on your calendar as we will be celebrating Scout Sunday at church. We will participate in the church service that day and also host our annual Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser after the second service.

Troop 309 looks forward to serving the church more in 2018 and wishes you all a Happy Healthy New Year!

A GENEROUS MAN WILL  
PROSPER; HE WHO RE-  
FRESHES OTHERS WILL  
HIMSELF BE REFRESHED.

Proverbs 11:25 (NIV)

### HAPPENINGS

Faith Fellowship is on Winter Schedule. We meet at 10 a.m. Tuesday, January 16, at Springhurst Panera for laughter and good company. Come if you can get there, weather and/or flu permitting!

The Weather Outside is Frightful.....But at Hand and Foot it is delightful. A good time to play cards in the warmth and comfort of the conference room. Dates for January: Friday, January 12, at 1 p.m. and Friday January 26, 1 p.m. If you've never played, come learn a new skill for the New Year.

Lunch Bunch will go to Longhorn Restaurant at Brownsboro Crossing, Tuesday, January 9, at noon. Notice a date change--we are on the second Tuesday, due to first of the month holidays. Snow Alert: If schools are closed we will not meet.