

January 2023



Grottoes United Methodist Church Pew News!

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January 2023 Church Calendar

- 11 - Sunday School, Worship Service
- 1/2 - Governance Board Meeting
- 1/8 - Sunday School Worship Service
- 1/9 - Knitting Group ERMA Food Pantry
- 1/15 - Sunday School Worship Service
- 1/16 - Knitting group ERMA Food Pantry
- 1/22 - Sunday School Worship Service
- 1/23 - Knitting Group ERMA Food Pantry
- 1/29 - Sunday School Worship Service

The Pastor's Corner

With the New Year comes new resolutions, or new beginnings, allowing the past to be allowed to inform our present, but not to control our future. I am reminded of the Hymn "This is a Day of New Beginnings"

"This is a day of new beginnings time to remember and move on, time to believe what love is bringing, laying to rest the pain that's gone."

We began to prepare in 2022 for new changes in 2023; how we will operate as a church at Grottoes UMC. We are already working towards setting up this new structure of governance that has now officially replaced the former Administrative Council.

The biggest change is the board itself and its responsibilities of governance. The GUMC Governance Board will not be in charge of managing the day to day planning of church ministries or events. Its role now shifts to the tasks of administra-

tion of the church and the implementation of governing policies that will help to guide the church in ministry in line with our mission statement, vision statement and the core values that we hold here at GUMC.

The Governance board condenses the Administrative committees of the Administrative Council, Trustees, SPRC, and Finance Committee into one board, with each member fulfilling the duties of those respective Administrative areas.

The Pastor's role is to work with and help to oversee and assist with the ministries of the church, and to coordinate the various work teams working on projects and ministries, reporting back to the Governance Board about progress and any needs that might need to be addressed.

The Governance Board will operate with transparency and regular opportunities for communication with the congregation. Meetings of the Governance Board are considered open meetings unless it is performing the work related to SPRC,



Pastor Brian

in which the meetings will move to a closed meeting for confidentiality purposes. Church members are always welcome to ask for meeting minutes and of course check out any Pew News! For updates about what's going on around GUMC.

But there is one last vital part of this new way of being church together, we are not church without everyone working together to live into our mission and vision, and upholding our core values. We will need ministry volunteers to help make the ministries of the church happen, and we will need volunteers to help when a work team has a project. We are all the hands and feet of Jesus Christ working together for the glory of God!

GUMC Ministry Priorities and Goals for 2023

There are particular areas of church ministry that a church ought to have in order to be an effective church living out its mission. In particular Outreach, Discipleship/Christian Education, and missions.

As we move into 2023 The Governance Board has already begun to name areas of focus for our 2023 goals. In particu-

lar to develop a stronger outreach ministry in which we can reach new people for Jesus Christ and invite them into a relationship with Christ. Second, to develop a Discipleship strategy to continue one's Spiritual growth and opportunities to learn about Jesus Christ and be formed spiritually by God's grace and truth; mercy and love.

It is recognized that if GUMC is to continue for future generations, we must be willing to love our neighbors, and actively reach out to them, their families and children and offer meaningful, life giving opportunities to authentically meet Christ Jesus through mission events, Community activities and opportunities to work side by side for the growth of GUMC.

Grottoes United Methodist Church

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The United Methodist Mission Statement is:

"To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."

The Grottoes Vision Statement is:

"Grottoes UMC is a faith community that shares God's gifts of love and hope through: Uplifting worship, Acts of Compassion, Spiritual growth & fellowship, Service to others"

Worship livestream

On Facebook - Grottoes United Methodist Church

WesleyOne Internet Radio Ministry

www.wesleyone.faith

GUMC Finance Report

Starting the Year off on the right foot, is always a good thing to witness. Financially I am happy to report that the first Sunday in January was the right foot.

Our weekly goal was \$1,755, and we received \$2,375, exceeding our goal by \$620.

Our weekly goals for January are as follows:

1/1 - \$1,755 (1.44%)
1/8 - \$2,362 (1.94%)
1/15 - \$695 (0.57%)
1/22 - \$1,761 (1.44%)
1/29 - \$1,398 (1.15%)

Our Monthly Goal for January in order to stay on track to meet our 2023 Budget is : \$7,971.00.

If you are not currently working towards a full tithe which is 10% of monthly income, please prayerfully consider working

towards this spiritual discipline in your faith journey

GUMC Missions

It has been a long time since we have had an honest and serious discussion about mission opportunities or areas that we as a church feel we could reach out in Christ's love to meet the needs in the world around us. We know of neighbors who are struggling and suffering for a variety of reasons, and the question we ought to consider is where does the passion of our church members intersect with the great needs of the world?

Church Mission is ministry where we can be creative, innovative and use the resources, gifts and skills, of our members to work to transform our community. If

you have some thoughts or ideas, please don't keep them quiet, share them with Pastor Brian or someone else. If it is God's plan, God will begin to align those who will make the vision a reality for the Church.

Kits for Annual Conference

With it being January, Annual Conference is only 6 months away. Its never too early to begin collecting items for Health Kits or School Kits. If we give our selves the time to be successful it greatly increases the odds of us being successful in meeting and even surpassing our ministry goals. Over the next week, Pastor Brian will be getting kit information published and collections started! Wouldn't it be great if our goal for kits was over 200 kits for 2023?

January Birthdays

David Cline 1/2
Destiny Hensley 1/5
Barbara Teter 1/7
Kay Leeth 1/13
Sharon Becker 1/15
Colby Shifflett 1/17
Stuart Randall 1/19
Clyde Jenkins 1/21
Dee Layman 1/22
Beth Teter 1/22
Sonny Campbell 1/27
Candace May 1/29
Samantha Blevins 1/30

Jan. Anniversaries

Larry & Annie Miller 1/11