

Words of Faith

Loving, Growing, Serving in Faith

January 2017

Blessing of the Magi

There is no reversing this road.
The path that bore you here goes in one direction only,
every step drawing you down a way by which you will not return.
You thought arrival was everything,
that your entire journey ended with kneeling
in the place you had spent all to find.
When you laid down your gift, release came with such ease,
your treasure tumbling from your hands in awe and benediction.
Now the knowledge of your leaving comes like a stone laid over your heart,
the familiar path closed and not even the solace of a star to guide your way.
You will set out in fear, you will set out in dream,
but you will set out by that other road that lies in shadow and in dark.
We cannot show you the route that will take you home;
that way is yours and will be found in the walking.
But we tell you that you will wonder at how the light you thought
you had left behind goes with you,
spilling from your empty hands,
shimmering beneath your homeward feet,
illuminating the road with every step you take.

Jan Richardson

Dear Friends – There is a deeply mysterious side to the story of the Three Wise Men, which we celebrate on Epiphany – which we are celebrating in worship on January 8, 2017. It is not only a story about three men, but it is a story about each of us.

Each time we allow a question to surge in us, and search for an answer, we are never the same.

Each time we open ourselves to being vulnerable:

in the face of change

when we look in the mirror

as we are confronted with the anger and fear of another

on the receiving end of love from another

to the movement of the Holy Spirit

we find the light of God accompanying us through new terrain.

When we are not open to that which God calls us, we live only in darkness without the blessing of the light of clarification, truth or inspiration.

I hope this year you will choose the blessing of the light.

See you Sunday! Pastor Karen



Growing in Faith

We are committed to growing as disciples of Jesus Christ.

Some of the ways we live this out are through our personal devotion, small groups, and worship.

PHOTOS



Rich Rubietta worship service



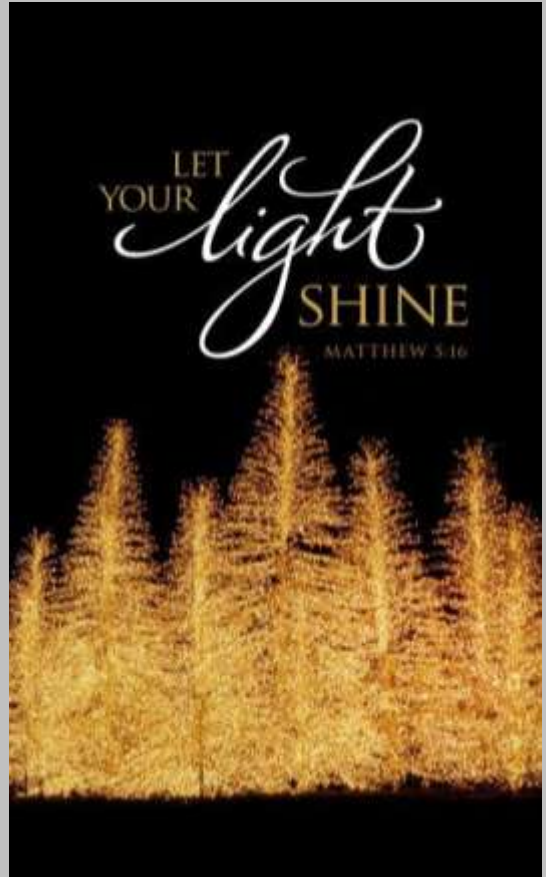
Time with Children



UMW honors John Deuth



*Baptism of Dorian Deets
Parents: Ryan & Rachel*



Serving in Faith

We are committed to serving the people of Polo and the world.

Some of the ways we live this out are through

JANUARY MISSION FOCUS

Pennies from Heaven



The January serving emphasis is on Pennies from Heaven.

Our church reaches out to the Polo community to offer assistance to those in need. Last year we honored 12 requests from individuals for help with rent, gas cards, water bills, and medications. With one individual, an important relationship developed. Pastor Karen was able to minister to this individual in a way that would not have happened without Pennies from Heaven opening the door.

COMBAT HUNGER



Polo Lifeline numbers have increased substantially since October. They appreciate any additional help we may give.

January needs for the Polo Lifeline are these:

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Coffee | Canned fruit |
| Mac and cheese | Canned pork & beans |
| Cereal | Canned meats except chili |
| Egg noodles, macaroni | Hamburger helper |
| Spaghetti sauce | Paper plates |
| Soups especially with meat | Pain reliever, Tylenol, |
| Paper Towels | Aspirin, Advil etc |
| Toilet Paper | Deodorant |
| Diapers larger sizes | |
| Toothpaste | |
| Kleenex | |

STRENGTHEN COMMUNITY



Our Table
Community
Meal

5:30—7pm

What: Free home-cooked meal
When: The last Monday of the
Month

January 2, January 30
February 27, March 27, April 24
May 29

Where: Faith UMC, 702 E. Dixon,
Polo, IL

We hope you will join us for this opportunity to get to know our neighbors better. Bring your friends.

POLO FAITH UMC FINANCIAL INFORMATION

November 2016 Polo Faith UMC Financial Information

	November 2016	Year to Date
Monthly Income (General Fund)	17,669.00	138,677.11
Monthly Expenses Paid	16,348.88	146,192.91
Outstanding bills waiting to be paid	(2,323.65)	

Expense amount does not include elevator or our outreach projects.

Thank you for your generosity throughout the year. If you are able to give a little extra now to support the basic costs of running the church, it will be greatly appreciated.

ATTENTION AD COUNCIL

Ad Council will meet after worship service January 8th to discuss future plans for the "Accessibility Project". Decisions need to be made regarding the finances and schedule for the project. All church members are welcome to attend.

The regular monthly meeting of the Ad Council will be January 16th at 7:00.

Phil Frey, Ad Council Chair



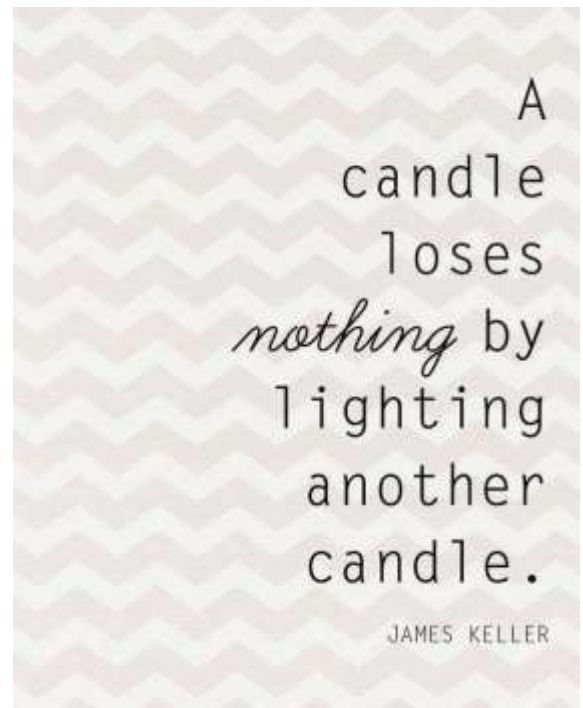
WHEELS OF FAITH NEW IMPROVED BUS



Help spread the word!!!
We have a wonderful new bus.

It has a wheel chair lift
and is air conditioned and will be comfortable for everyone.

Call 815 677-8194 to make an appointment



WE CELEBRATE WITH

January Birthdays

January Anniversaries

- 1 Jim Deets
- 1 Tyler Maginnis
- 2 Kendall Kyker
- 3 Karla Merdian
- 3 Betty Miller
- 4 Rebecca Jacobs
- 4 Coretta (Cora) Buskohl
- 6 Amy Jo Gillingham
- 6 Butch Hummel
- 6 Braelyn Velez
- 7 Brandy Whalen
- 7 Cathy Rogers
- 8 Kathy Danko
- 8 Tessa Morhardt
- 11 Eldon Ports
- 13 Carrie Deets

- 13 Valeria Forster
- 15 Blake Strickler
- 16 Jule DeBois
- 17 Bill Cross
- 17 Jodi Merrell
- 17 Landon Montross
- 17 Brad Ford
- 21 Shareen Buck
- 22 Adeline Beck
- 23 Emily Witmer
- 25 Lilly Gillingham
- 25 Judy Norris
- 25 Brendon Velez
- 26 Nancy Ocken
- 27 Jared Frey
- 28 Cheryl Goeking

- 30 Robin Jefford
- 30 Reagan Terry
- 31 Brayden Collins



18 Tim & Colleen Stauffer

Happy Anniversary

FIFTH SUNDAY LUNCHEON AT PRAIRIE STATE APARTMENTS

PLEASE JOIN US on January 29 (right after church)



The serving team will share a soup and sandwich meal with the residents at Prairie State Apartments on January 29 right after church. We are back on track planning this shared meal whenever there is a fifth Sunday. The meal in October was very well attended, so we'll hope for a good turn-out for good food and fellowship this month as well.

Have your favorite soup, salad, dessert recipes ready. We'll be asking for help toward the end of the month.



SECOND HAND ROSE



ADDITIONAL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for January 3 -7, 2017

Faith UMC provides workers for the Tuesday-Saturday weekly schedule every 5 weeks.

The schedule is:

- Tuesday & Wednesday 11 am-2 pm & 2-5pm
- Thursday & Friday 1-5 pm, (or you can work 1-3 or 3-5 if 4 hours is too much)
- Saturday 9-12 noon

If you are willing to learn this fairly easy but important job, we will have you work with someone who has more experience.

If you would like to join our team, please call Ginny Snodgrass at 779.770.6393 or the church office. THANK YOU!!!

Loving in Faith

We are committed to loving God and all people.

Some of the ways we live this out are through our praise, prayers, and fellowship.

WE LIFT UP IN PRAYER

Ongoing Prayers:

Verla Attig
Lenora Bakener
Kay Dillard
Marian Ditzler
Totsie Dykema
Bill Ehmen
Faith Glaman
Betty Good
Gladys Haring
Harland Long

Nancy Mackey
Wallace Mackey
Kenneth Miller
Annabelle Muench
Viola Myers
Eldon Ports
Arvilla Siddens
Situation in Israel/Palestine
National and World
Leaders
Military and Law

Enforcement Personnel
Immigration Crisis
Our struggles to love our neighbors.



JANUARY 2016 WORSHIP SERVANTS

Child Care Assistants January 2016

1-8-17 Melissa Frey
1-15-17 Rebecca Jacobs
1-22-17 Nancy Ocken
1-29-17 Toby Aguilar

Greeters:

1-1-17 Phil & Jean Frey
Barb Sims and Ginny Snodgrass
1-8-17 Shawn & Tiffany Willis
Daniel & Ashley Deuth
1-15-17 Jim & Robin Jefford
Karla Merdian & Shirley Gentry
1-22-17 Matt & Kate Messer
Donna Gillingham & Jan Bates
1-29-17 Drew & Tena Terry
Ron & Julia Hammer

UMW MEETING



January 19, 2017
Scout Room

Hostesses: Rosemary Troxel and Jan Bates
Program: Installation of Officers
Presenter: Donna Deets
Devotions: Margie Shore

YOUTH ROOM & STORAGE SPACE CLEAN OUT

De-Clutter the Youth Room in the New Year

A group of volunteers in cooperation with the Trustees will be cleaning out the upstairs area of the church in January. It has become an accumulation of old furniture and miscellaneous "stuff". We want this to be an appealing, functional space. If you have things stored in this area whether it be in the storage spaces or in the classroom, please evaluate whether it should stay or go! Let Mark Maginnis know if there are important things that must be kept.



"I made a New Year's resolution to eat broccoli. If I can't stand it, I'll give it up for Lent."



2016 Poinsettias

John & Jean Deuth & family	In memory of Elwin Deuth, Tom Corcoran Jim Corcoran
Phil & Jean Frey	In memory of loved ones
Phil & Jean Frey	In honor the Bell Choir and the Senior Choir
Valerie Forster	In honor of my Dad, Ron Forster
Donna Gillingham	In memory of Dick Gillingham.
Randy & Donna Hayes	
Pastor Karen	With thanks to my friends
Rebecca Jacobs	In memory of Irvin & Darlene Jacobs, Ken and & Connie William
Jim & Robin Jefford	With thanks to Jean Frey & Carol Brown
Judy Norris	With thanks to God
Mike & Karen Scholl	In memory of our parents
Matt & Margie Shore	In memory of Alice Cox and Gladys Shore
Betty Stoner	In memory of Carl Stoner
Marilyn Sura	In honor of family & friends
Tena & Drew Terry	In honor of our children & grandchildren
Gladys Typer	In memory of Bill Typer & Nancy Lynn
Donna & Gary Yeager	In memory of Betty White

*Watch calendar, website
and bulletins for upcoming
committee meetings*

Copies of the Ad Council minutes and financial reports are available in the green folder on the table outside the office.

This newsletter is created by human hands directing Technology. If you notice any errors, kindly let us know. We will be happy to make any corrections. We reserve the right to change the wording of any articles submitted to reflect kindness, consideration, and the best intentions of all.

February Newsletter Deadline is January 18

STAY IN TOUCH

Faith United Methodist Church
Pastor Karen Hundrieser

COME SEE US

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