



**THE METHODIST MESSENGER**  
**MONTHLY UPDATES OF THE ST. JOHN'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**312 E. Main St., P.O Box 236 Fruitland, Maryland 21826**

***Our Mission Statement: We are First and Foremost a Church with the Mission of "Bringing People to Christ and Christ to People".***

***For January***

*I will need everyone's submissions for the newsletter by the 24<sup>th</sup> of every month to get everything together for the following months newsletter. Unless someone wants me to edit something then I will, but if not then I will and paste as is.*

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If anybody wants Business Cards then I can make them for you.

It comes in 10 on a sheet for \$10 dollars.

You can email me for more information.

Thank you

***Birthdays and Anniversary***



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Just a reminder of AVON SSS BUG GUARD sales all profits will be donated to St John's. Please call Jean Powell 443-235-2431 for more information.

Thank you for your support!

**Fruitland School**

It's again time to provide 30 children with a weekend food bag. If you would like to help with this Mission's project, we need snack donations of assorted chips or individually wrapped cookies.

Items are needed by the third Sunday of each month starting in September. We will pack the bags after the service on the fourth Sunday.

If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer Frieman at 410-603-2028.

Thank you for your support.

From the Pastor's Desk

Happy New Year!

As we look out over the horizon of this new year, I probably don't need to remind you that none of us knows what tomorrow holds. This is why it is so important to keep our eyes focused on our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, the one who holds all our tomorrows. I want to share a special New Year message.

Most of us have either purchased a new car or at least taken a ride in a brand-new vehicle with the "new smell" still fully intact. Yet, it doesn't take too long for the "new" to become "old" or at least that feeling of new to wear off.

There's a powerful old scripture in the Bible that I believe is still relevant in this new day and age we live in. Isaiah 43:19 (NKJV) "Behold, I will do a new thing, now it shall spring forth; Shall you not know it? I will even make a road in the wilderness and rivers in the desert." I realize this was written to the people of that day; however, I believe we still serve a mighty God who longs to do "new things" in our lives. Yet, these things God wants to do are usually facilitated by our willingness and desire to cooperate.

There may be some in our midst attempting to look out over the weeks and months ahead and only see a "dry wilderness." Yet, let me remind you that He can still make a road in the wilderness and rivers in the desert! I want to encourage you today to allow the Lord to do "a new thing" in your heart, marriage, job, church, school, or community! While we all will continue to go through times of refining and even trials, we serve a God who is faithful and WILL bring us through as we trust Him!

Happy New Year!

*Pastor Shannon Harris*

### Sermon Titles and Scriptures for January

4<sup>th</sup>- Arise and Shine- Isaiah 60:1-6, Ephesians 3:1-12

11<sup>th</sup>- Start God's Promise Lenten Series- Promise of New Life- Psalm 29, Matthew 3:13-17

18<sup>th</sup>- Promise of Faithfulness- Psalm 40:1-11, 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

25<sup>th</sup>- Promise of Ministry- Psalm 27:1, 4-9, Matthew 4:12-23