



Volume 7, Issue 11
January 2017

The Beacon

God is still speaking, **UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**



Spiritually Speaking

Pastor Amber Kirkendoll

Happy 2017, Safe Harbor!

The holidays have passed, a new year is upon us, and God alone knows what adventures lie ahead!

As we venture into this new journey, we know there will be ups and downs, triumphs and trials, hopes and heartaches. May your year be filled with the best of the above!

Always you are Loved!

Love and Light,
Pastor Amber

Enjoy every single
moment.
The good, the bad,
the beautiful,
the ugly, the inspiring,
the not-so-glamorous
moments.
AND
THANK GOD
through it *all.*

- Meghan Matt

CROSSOVER

"Crossover" continues to be a wonderful mid-week boost. We have an exciting month planned. "Crossover" is held on Wednesday evenings at the church.

If you've never attended a "Crossover" service you are missing out! You owe it to yourself to experience it.

The evening begins with dinner and fellowship at 6:30 p.m. Dinner is followed by an informal program at 7:00 p.m. and is conducted by volunteers who lead with personal experiences on an assortment of topics, ranging from Bible studies and character building exercises to information sharing, interpretive dance, drama and

teaching sessions. If you are interested in leading a "Crossover" evening please see Cindy.

"Crossover" has become an integral part of who we are. We all need to be fed spiritually during the week. Take advantage of this wonderful opportunity.

YACHT Club

Time to begin a new year in the YACHT Club! Our youth this year will be starting off with studying different spiritual traditions and how they relate to life and our own religious ideas.

Through Sunday School at 5:15 p.m. and Wednesday youth lessons at 7:00 p.m., we will explore what so many before us have researched, debated, and learned: what it means to live life like Christ.

Join us for faith talks, fun times, and fellowship as we discover new truths and dive in to God's Word in the YACHT Club!

You Are Christ's Holy Treasure!

Food Pantry

Safe Harbor Food Pantry Ministry is always in need of can goods to help persons that struggle to make ends meet.

If you can help, please bring your cans of food to the church anytime that the church is open.

Any of your pastoral staff can help you find space to shelve the food.



Kidz Harbor

UPCOMING EVENTS:

No upcoming events this month! Watch announcements and calendar for any changes!

Sundays 5:15 - 5:45-
Sunday School in Kidz Harbor (drop off begins at 5:10)

Sundays @ 6 for kidz 6 & younger-Kidz Harbor

Wednesdays after dinner
- Kidz Harbor

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Hope you all had a very blessed Christmas and exciting New Year's!

Thank you to all Kidz Harbor volunteers who make all of this possible!

ACTIVITY:

This month we welcome
A New Year!

Can you find the year "2017" at least 20 times in this number search puzzle? It's a bit of a challenge!

2017 Number Search

Happy New Year!

Can you find "2017" twenty times in the puzzle below?
You can look for it forwards, backwards and diagonally too!

2	0	1	7	3	7	1	0	2	4	2	5
3	5	9	8	7	0	2	0	1	7	0	8
2	7	1	0	2	1	1	5	6	7	1	7
3	2	5	7	6	7	0	2	3	4	7	1
6	7	1	0	2	6	0	2	4	3	8	0
2	2	2	2	2	1	2	0	1	7	4	2
2	2	0	1	7	3	4	2	0	1	7	7
0	3	2	4	7	8	9	6	5	1	2	3
1	5	5	0	2	7	2	3	0	4	2	7
7	7	7	4	1	0	1	2	5	6	0	1
9	5	8	6	1	7	2	0	4	5	1	0
5	2	6	7	4	1	1	0	2	0	7	2



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Glimpses of God from Glenn...

Happy New Year! And yet, there are some of us who would just as soon put the New Year on hold...indefinitely. But, delays to the 'new year' will likely lead to more uncertainty and only increase the fear within many people. Of course, reality tells all of us that January cannot be delayed. It seems that no matter what, 2017 is here...well, at least for a year!

This year, I was reminded of the Serenity Prayer and wanted to include it here in this newsletter article. Dr. Reinhold Niebuhr, theologian and author of this prayer, first used it in 1934 in one of his sermons. It was first published in 1951. Some twelve-step recovery programs including Alcoholics Anonymous use the most familiar prayer which goes like this:

"God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change,
Courage to change the things I can, and the Wisdom to know the difference."

I checked online and to my surprise, I found that a more modern version of the prayer includes a second stanza. The prayer goes as follows:

"God, give me grace to accept with serenity the things that cannot be changed,

Courage to change the things which should be changed,

and the Wisdom to distinguish the one from the other.

Living one day at a time,

Enjoying one moment at a time,

Accepting hardship as a pathway to peace,

Taking, as Jesus did, this sinful world as it is,

Not as I would have it,

Trusting that You will make all things right,

If I surrender to Your will,
So that I may be reasonably happy in this life,

And supremely happy with You forever in the next.

Amen."

The second stanza asks God to provide a way for each of us to be content with our day-to-day lives. It is a prayer of trust in God that gives us peace and happiness. The prayer ends by looking forward to life everlasting beyond the grave.

If you are willing, will you commit with me to make the Serenity Prayer become a reality in my life and in your lives.

May God grant each of us the serenity to accept, the courage to act, and the wisdom to know the difference! God bless you. Love, Glenn

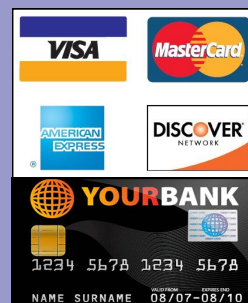
Glenn



Donations are always appreciated and needed!

Looking for an easy way to donate to Safe Harbor?

Check out the "Donate" button on the right side of our website at:
safeharborfamilychurch.org



Safe Harbor Family Church

An Open & Affirming (ONA) congregation of the United Church of Christ
1345 Flowood Dr.





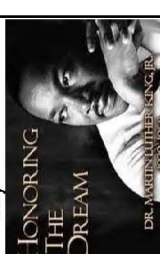


601-923-2728

JANUARY 2017

Flowood, Mississippi 39232-2702

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
1 1st Sunday after Christmas New Year's Day 	2	3 6p - Card Ministry Meeting (at Cups in the Quarter on Lakeland Dr.) 	4 5:30p - Dance, Drama, & Sign group 6:30p - Crossover 7p - service & YACHT	5	6 Epiphany 	7	
6 PM - NO Service							
8 Baptism of Our Lord 	9	10 6:30p - PFLAG Fondren Presbyterian Church 6:30p- Shepherd's Task Force (at the church)	11 5:30p - Dance, Drama, & Sign group 6:30p - Crossover 7p - service & YACHT	12	13	14	
6 PM - Praise Service Birthday Bash after service Bring a dish to share							
15 2nd Sunday after Epiphany	16 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day 	17	18 5:30p - Dance, Drama, & Sign group 6:30p - Crossover 7p - service & YACHT	19	20	21	
6 PM - Praise Service					7p - Craft Group (location TBA)		
22 3rd Sunday after Epiphany	23	24	25 5:30p - Dance, Drama, & Sign group 6:30p - Crossover 7p - service & YACHT	26	27	28	
6 PM - Praise Service							
29 4th Sunday after Epiphany	30	31	Epiphany comes from a Greek word meaning "to show forth." Think of the star that guided the wise men to Bethlehem, bringing people of other lands to Jesus. When Easter comes late, there may be as many as 6 Sundays in this season. Epiphany always begins on January 6th.				FEBRUARY S M T W T F S 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
6 PM - Praise Service			DECEMBER S M T W T F S 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				