

January Celebrations

Birthdays:

2 – Donnetta Ratliff
8 – Leah Cooper
9 – Ernestine Haynes
13 – Don McCoy
14 – Jason Benson
17 – Ginny Hess
18 – Rose Fredenburg
19 – Stephanie Benson
19 – Brittany Helman
20 – Brandon Lovett
20 – Virginia Rawlings
24 – Clayton Lovett
28 – Bob Haynes

Anniversaries:

21 – George & Gloria Kirkpatrick

Board Meeting

**January 13,
After Coffee Fellowship**

*Pastor Michelle's
Bible Study Class
will resume in January.*

Serving in January:

Minister:

Reverend Michelle Brown

Music Directors:

Susan Smith & John Doty

Organist/Pianist:

John Doty

Choir Director:

Susan Smith

Elders:

*6th – Cindy/Jon 13th – Donnetta/Teresa
20th – Jackie/Buster 27th – Susan/Jake*

Worship Leaders:

*6th – Jon Dietrich
13th – Cheryl Tichenor
20th – Jake Smith
27th – Michael Cooper*

Diaconate:

*Teresa & Paul Dennis
Jill Darling – Jana Lovett*

Communion Prep:

Jana Lovett

Nursery:

Leah & Michael Cooper

*“The highway of the upright is to depart from
evil: he that keepeth his way preserveth his
soul.”*

Proverbs 16:17

The Sixth Street Messenger

A publication of the Sixth Street Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

January

www.sixthstreetchristian.org

2019

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A message from Reverend Michelle Brown is shown below.

Pastor Michelle's New Office Hours

Michelle plans to begin regularly scheduled office hours in late January or February. She will be available each Thursday from 12:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Michelle will also do visitations on Sunday afternoons and evenings, or by appointment during the evening on weekdays.

Christian Women's Fellowship News

The CWF would like to thank the congregation for their support of CWF projects during 2018. The money that was raised will help many people in need.

CWF will not have a regular monthly meeting in January or February. They will meet on **Wednesday, January 9, at 9:00 a.m.** to clean the church kitchen.

Family Game Night

Game Night will be **Saturday, January 19, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.** Games, snacks and fun for all ages.

Church Board Meeting

The January meeting of the Sixth Street Church Board will be **Sunday, January 13**, after Coffee Fellowship. Please plan to attend.

“Dining to Donate”

“Dining to Donate” at Applebee's in Anderson is **Wednesday, January 16**. A flier is included in your newsletter; present it to your server when paying your check. Proceeds will go to our fund for a new church organ.

Support the Middletown Food Pantry

Please help our church support the Middletown Food Pantry. Your donations of food, household products and money benefit our neighbors who are in need. Please give generously.

“Dost thou love life? Then do not squander time, for that is the stuff life is made of.”

--Benjamin Franklin 1706 - 1790

We are Disciples of Christ,

A movement for wholeness in a fragmented world. As part of the one body of Christ, we welcome all to the Lord's Table as God has welcomed us.

• Disciples of Christ Statement of Identity



THE SIXTH STREET MESSENGER

January Newsletter Message from Rev. Brown:

Hello Sixth Street Christian Church Family and Friends! My mom has been struggling recently, so I've been praying for her. My prayers have gone something like this:

Lord, God, I know with you all things are possible. I am grateful that you care for your children, that you sent Jesus to Earth to be your physical presence with us, and that you are delighted to fill us with your Spirit as comforter and guide. Lord, I ask that you give Mom the ability to open herself to your Spirit, so she feels your arms around her and she is filled with the knowledge of your limitless love. Sweep away the barriers she has erected and heal the brokenness within her. Break through to her, Lord; may she fully know she is precious and beyond value in your sight. Send people to her who can build her up and reveal to her how much she is loved. Strengthen her and hold her fast. Speak to her and open her ears and heart and mind to your voice. Fill her with the knowledge of your will and how she can fulfill it. Grant her the confidence that she is uniquely suited to serve you and that she is more than able to do it *as she is now* and in the future. Lord, God, help me to speak and write to Mom to bring her healing and peace. These things I pray in the name of your Son, Jesus the Messiah. Amen.

I think God has been answering my prayers by filling me with understanding and a desire to help my mom – and maybe others – to heal. I think God has created us in God's image. That doesn't mean we look like God necessarily; it means something much more significant than physical appearance. I believe it means that God has created us with a need to love others. The *need* to love, not just the ability. God created us so God would have children to love, and he built us around the same desire – to love and be loved. When that love goes unfulfilled by the people in our lives, we are broken. The trauma of having our need unmet by those who should love us causes terrible fear and great pain, and what we do in response to fear and pain is sin. Sin, in turn, keeps us from loving God, other people, and ourselves; it damages our relationships and prevents us from feeling God's healing love and the love of others – which, in turn, does more damage to us and drives us further away. When we are separated from God's love, we are lost, and by ourselves we cannot find our way back to God.

God sent the Word to human beings to extend salvation beyond our damage and the barriers we erect. God sent us the Word through the Law of Moses, the prophets of old, and the writings and teachings of the children of Israel. At every turn, however, human brokenness and sin kept God's Word from healing all people. God's Word was misinterpreted and misapplied. People used it to separate and destroy, to give power to some and squash the rest. I believe God sent Jesus to Jews and Gentiles alike as the Word in the flesh. Jesus found the lost and brought them back to God, he healed the broken of body and of spirit, he cast out demons of evil and doubt, he brought people together regardless of class or wealth or culture, he loved them all and taught them to love. He freed them from fear: the fear of God's punishment and the unknown, the fear of death and what lies beyond it, the fear of rejection and isolation. Jesus gave us God's purpose and revealed God's persistent, unchangeable love – regardless of who we are and what we've done. When Jesus' earthly life ended, God filled us with the Holy Spirit, and the Spirit makes us like Jesus in the world today. With the Spirit, we are enabled to reach past the damage that prevents people from loving God and others and reveal God's love to them. Jesus and the salvation of God works through us – the words we say and the work of our hands – to heal others, to make them sanctuaries for God, to become more Emmanuel – “God with us” – in the world today.

Okay, that's all I have for now. There is more, but I need to rest. I love you all the time.

Love, your daughter, or your pastor, and/or friend, Michelle, as the case may be.

JANUARY DATES TO REMEMBER:

- 1st** **New Year's Day**
- 10th** **New Bible Study Class begins - 9:00 to 10:00 a.m.**
- 12th** **Foster/Adoptive Parent Support Group**
(Organizational Meeting - 6:00 p.m.)
- 13th** **Church Board Meeting – Sunday (Following Coffee Fellowship).**
- 16th** **“Dining to Donate” at Applebee’s in Anderson.**
- 19th** **Sixth Street Game Night - 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.**