



The Current Newsletter

CLEARWATER UMC | JANUARY 2018

Prayer Warriors

Anyone who has been through the teenage years will recall what a special and unique time this is -- discovering one's talents and interests, setting goals, making new friends, experiencing emotional ups and downs, and navigating the hallways of life without the constant watchful eye of the parents. We may remember our middle, high school, and college days as the "best of times" or the "worst of times". That being said - a new prayer ministry bloomed this year with the mission to pray daily for the young people who attend or are affiliated with our church.

Heartfelt thanks to these people who are praying for one or more of our young people on a daily basis:

Carol Bates, Eileen Calcote, Jeanne Childs, Judy Frye, Glenda Light, Gordon and Maxine Mikesell, Kim Mize, Beth Rohling, Gary and Sherilyn Ward, Donna Wise, Marlene Whitaker.

If you wish to join this group who are praying for our young people, please let me know. Colossians 1:9-10 is a prayer we all can pray for each other.

Just a reminder to email me at cumcprayerwarriors@sktc.net if you have prayer concerns. Let me know if you want your request to go to the whole church family or just to the Prayer Warrior group.

Joyce Haivala 620-584-3135

UMW

January 11, 2018 UMW will meet and have a soup luncheon and work day.

Ladies are each to bring a can of soup to add to the pot of soup.

For the future, Feb. 8 UMW will gather at 9:00a.m to put together and

deliver Love Baskets. The committee is Marie Nordstedt,

Linda McCune, and Yvonne Coon.

Thanks, Charlotte

*"Kindness is like snow —
it beautifies
everything it covers."
—Kahlil Gibran*

JANUARY

- 1 - Offices Closed
- 2 - Offices closed
- 3 - 3:15 p.m. - Kids of the Kingdom*
5:30 p.m. - Fellowship Meal, FH*
7:15 p.m. - Choir Practice, FLC#5*
- 7- 9:30 a.m. - Worship, sanctuary*
10:30 a.m. - Fellowship, FH*
10:45 a.m. - Sunday Classes*
- 6:00 p.m. - God Squad Youth Group, FH*
- 11 - UMW Soup Lunch/Work Day
- 15 - No School, GSPS, KC
- 17 - 4:15 p.m. - Confirmation Classes begin*
- 19 - Holy Crafters, FH

Happy Birthday ...

- 01/02 Freddy Sanchez
- 01/04 Louise Riggs
- 01/05 Hannah Zaitz
- 01/11 Jessica Reynard
- 01/17 Liz Speer
- 01/17 Tricia Miles
- 01/19 McKensey White
- 01/20 Mason Skiles
- 01/25 Vada Ruth Tjaden
- 01/26 Marilyn Dinwiddie
- 01/27 Phil Wise
- 01/28 Tara Robertson
- 01/29 Josh Moyer

Happy Anniversary ...

- 01/19/1974 Richard & Marilyn Dinwiddie
- 01/19/1985 Mike & Christy Petersen
- 01/25/1964 Don & Janie Winter
- 01/29/1983 Kirby & Beth Rohling

Winter Gift

“God ... does great things beyond our knowing. He says to the snow, ‘Fall to the earth’; likewise to his heavy, drenching rain. He shuts up all humankind indoors, so that all people may know his work” (Job 37:5-7, NABRE).

Snow, ice and cold can make winter a hassle. “Snow days” due to a blizzard may thrill students but usually inconvenience parents. But now and then, winter blankets the earth so heavily that it seems to quiet everything. We’re granted permission to hunker down at home, snuggle close with family or pets, enjoy a book or movie, make cocoa or cookies, and rest. It’s like a surprise sabbath — the gift of grace-time — when no one’s expected to get out the door or the driveway.

Perhaps indeed, as Job declared, God sees fit on such days to put our busyness on hold and shut us all indoors so we pause and remember his work — his place — in our lives. Praise God for snow days!

A Penguin “Parable”

During storms, emperor penguins huddle for warmth, taking turns at the center and on the perimeter of the group. While incubating eggs, up to 6,000 male penguins have been observed clustering for shelter against the harsh Antarctic winter. Partially grown chicks gather in protective “crèches” (French for “cribs”); often surrounded by a colony of adults, these groupings ward off predators and cold.



In stormy times, humans also need supportive groups; we can’t survive alone. A church family allows us to take turns giving and receiving care. Amid social upheaval, injustice, illness, natural disaster and any loss or crisis, God invites us to gather for protection and warmth. In the church community, we support and strengthen one another and are empowered to go out again into the less-sheltered world.