**GILBERT COMMUNITY CHURCH – UNITED METHODIST**

**202 Wisconsin Avenue West**

[**www.gilbertcommunityumc.org**](http://www.gilbertcommunityumc.org)

**JANUARY – FEBRUARY 2023**

Pastor Mary Lou Sixberry

surfingsixpack@hotmail.com

Home: 218-749-2901

Cell: 218-750-2154

**PASTOR’S CORNER**

Well, I need to start working on remembering to write 2023 as part of the date starting with the first Sunday following Christmas, which is January 1st. We have celebrated another Christmas Eve and were able to enjoy the sanctuary which as always looks so beautiful with all the decorations, the tree and lights. The sanctuary was transformed to make it part of the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ. Therefore we were able to enjoy and celebrate worship together in a beautiful setting. Thank you to all who made it possible.

Again this year I was amazed by our congregation with their willingness to give and share with others. I am sure the three little girls of our adopted Christmas family were amazed and touched by each of your donations. Each donation made and their Christmas special in so many ways. Personally, giving to those who are far less fortunate than ourselves is what Advent and the Christmas season is all about and the church again did it well.

Bible Study will resume on Thursday, January 5th. Thank you to Deborah for leading this date so I am able to meet my obligation of doing nursing home services. This year we are watching and discussing the “Chosen” series and will be starting the second season. It is a time of learning more about Jesus’ life, about each other and enjoying the time of fellowship together. Everyone is welcome for it is never too late to join.

I don’t know about you, but I feel we have seen enough snow for awhile, but I remember where we live and know only God has control over the weather and how much snow we will get, so I better enjoy the beauty of the snow and the free exercise program it provides. We also must remember that we can do it in stages so that we don’t push ourselves too far that it endangers our health. When we see the snow fall which means shoveling is needed and I would like to thank everyone who takes on that duty when their turn comes up. It is always nice to get to the church and the sidewalks are clear. So thank you!

I know we just completed Advent and Christmas which means by brain is still spinning, but I need to remind you that Lent begins Ash Wednesday which is on February 22nd. The Lenten Devotionals have been ordered and should be available at the church the middle of February. So when February 1st comes up, maybe you should start thinking what you are going to do or not do to celebrate the Lenten Season.

So welcome to the New Year, 2023 as we say goodbye to 2022. If you make any New Year resolutions this year, give some thought of spending more private time with God as one of them. May this year be better than the last and may we all stay healthy and safe. Each year brings new opportunities for fellowship and service to God, may we choose to act positively on each opportunity and not miss any.

Take care of yourselves and your loved ones. God Bless each of you. Remember He is always only a prayer away.

Pastor MaryLou

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Remember that all ages are welcome and encouraged to attend. Join us for 45 minutes of Bible stories, music and crafts!

**AD COUNCIL/EVA KIEREN CIRCLE**

This will actually be our Church/Charge Conference which will be held on Thursday, January 5th at 6:30 p.m. This will be held with Pastor Terry Tilton. Please join us - Everyone is welcome!

**DIRECTIONS FOR CHURCH WEBSITE**

Directions for the church website. Open your browser on your computer, Ipad or phone. Type in [www.gilbertcommunitychurch.org](http://www.gilbertcommunitychurch.org) – HIT ENTER – this will bring you to the church website. Once into the church website, click on the section you would like to access, for example Daily Devotionals, click and it will open at the bottom of the page. If you choose to watch a Sunday Service, just click on the zoom service (RED) and click the picture of the church with the date of the service you would like to view.

**SALVATION ARMY SUPPER CLUB**

The Salvation Army Supper Club may be opening soon – so consider volunteering when that time comes.

Right now the Salvation Army asks that all volunteers NOT serve until further notice – they are handing out bag lunches and hot meals.

Remember our church helps to serve the Salvation Army Supper Club the third Thursday of the month. Serving starts at 3:30 p.m. and only takes a couple of hours. We need more volunteers to sign up. The sign-up sheet is in the back of the church.

The last Sunday of each month we will be holding a Noisy Offering…. In this offering we will pass a can and everyone will bring pocketfuls of change to put in the can and make lots of noise. We need a new charity for the 2023 donation. Please let DeEtta know of any ideas.

Arrowhead Senior Nutrition Services - Senior Dining AEOA is offered at Eveleth IGA and Grandma’s Restaurant in Virginia can be had for $4.50 for anyone over 60 years old. Just call (218) 735-6899 or 1-800-662-5711 ext. 6899 to get on their list.

**COFFEE AN’s**

January 8th – DeEtta will be serving.

February 12th – Deborah and Audrey will be serving.

**BIRTHDAYS** **BIRTHDAYS**

January 6th Ken Anderson February 2nd Mel Annala

January 24th Rylee Hall February 6th John Jagunich

 February 10th Sue Malevich

 February 12th Barb Kern

 February 27th Bubs Heitzman

**ANNIVERSARIES ANNIVERSARIES**

**SCRIPTURES…**

January 1st… February 5th…

 Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14 (UMH 795) Psalm 112:1-9 (UMH 833)

 Isaiah 60:1-6 Isaiah 58:1-9a

 Ephesians 3:1-12 1 Corinthians 2:1-12

January 8th… February 12th…

 Psalm 29 (UMH 761) Psalm 119:1-8 (840)

 Isaiah 42:1-9 Deuteronomy 30:15-20

 Acts 10:34-43 1 Corinthians 3:1-9

January 15th… February 19th…

 Psalm 40:1-11 (UMH 774) Psalm 99 (UMH 819)

 Isaiah 49:1-7 Exodus 24:12-18

 1 Corinthians 1:1-9 2 Peter 1:16-21

January 22nd … February 26th…

 Psalm 27:1, 4-9 (UMH 758) Psalm 32 (UMH 766)

 Isaiah 9:1-4 Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

 1 Corinthians 1:10-18 Romans 5:12-19

January 29th…

 Psalam 15 (UMH 747)

 Micah 6:1-8

 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

**LITURGIST…**

January 1st Deborah Ross-Jagunich February 5th John Malevich

January 8th Sue Malevich February 12th DeEtta Annala

January 15th Warren Ross February 19th Deborah Ross-Jagunich

January 22nd Don Peterson February 26th Sue Malevich

January 29th Norma Purkat

**USHER…** ushers not needed at this time

January 1st DeEtta Annala February 5th DeEtta Annala

January 8th Deborah Ross-Jagunich February 12th Deborah Ross-Jagunich

 And Warren Ross and Warren Ross

January 15th Don and Terri Peterson February 19th Don and Terri Peterson

January 22nd Tom and Deanna Hafdahl February 26th Tom and Deanna Hafdahl

January 29th John Malevich

\*\*There is a family of 7 children willing to help with snow shoveling for our church. So if it is your turn to shovel and you need help or just need someone to do the job for you give them a call: Dana Markasich at 218-410-2926. Give them a couple of days to get the job done.

 **YARD WORK (week runs Monday-Sunday)**

January 2nd-8th Peterson

January 9th-15th Jagunich

January 16th-22nd Matteson

January 23rd-29th Kern

January 30th-Feb 5th Kerzie/Hafdahl

February 6th-12th Kern

February 13th-19th John and Norma

February 20th-26th Malevich

Feb 27th-March 5th Matteson