

THE MIDNIGHT HOUR

Rowena Cheney

*Though trees are bare and branches sway
In cold, bleak winds of a winter day,
Our hearts are glowing, warm with cheer,
As we approach a newborn year;
The midnight hour is drawing near.*

*We welcome it with buoyant sound;
Laughter and happy shouts abound
Among the joyful throngs that greet
This hour on crowded city street,
Or anywhere they chance to meet.*

*Wherever we may be tonight –
In city's glare or firelight
Within a quiet room – may we
Pause, and remember reverently
The ageless words, "Come unto me--."*

*So may we vow, while carillons ring,
To give ourselves as offering
To One who answers all our needs.
And following where divine love leads,
May all our thoughts and words and deeds
Pave with true faith in right and good
The path to peace and brotherhood.*

SOUTH COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH NEWSLETTER

11800 47 Mile Rd.
Cadillac, MI. 49601
(231) – 775-3067

www.scommunityumc.org

JANUARY 2018

MORNING WORSHIP 9:30 A.M.
SUNDAY SCHOOL 11: 00 A.M.

PASTOR JIM MORT

Marion Church Phone- (231)) 743-2834
Parsonage Phone- (231) 743-0062

Vision Statement

*We are a family united by God's love: serving, sharing and
growing together. It is our mission to call people into a
relationship with Jesus Christ.*

FINANCES:

Receipts for November- \$ 4,021.77
Disbursements for November- \$ 3,691.48
Receipts year to date- \$ 44,861.14
Disbursements year to date- \$ 40,813.30
Wesley House - \$ 496.00
Heifer project -\$ 462.75
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ANNOUNCEMENTS:

CLEANING CHURCH

There is a sign up sheet on bulletin board at the back of church for volunteering to clean church in 2018.

SAVE THE DATE !!

We will kick off our first family night of 2018 January 12th at 6:30pm. with soup and a loaded baked potato bar. We will also be having some fun activities planned. More details in the coming weeks. Life is so busy for everyone! Family nights will be planned for the second Friday evening of each month, so as you plan your hectic schedules you'll know when our fun-filled night will be so you can plan accordingly. We have some fun/new ideas for the months to come. If you have any questions or ideas please feel free to contact me at any time @231- 878-6110. Haylee Brinks.

Thank you to South Community UMC for donating to this year's Crop Walk. Total is \$1,635.29. 25% of that will go to King's Storehouse at First Baptist church in Cadillac, Salvation Army and Family Care Network in Manton. Each receiving \$136.27. Participating churches were:

- Cadillac UMC
- Manton UMC
- South Community UMC
- Trinity Lutheran in Manton
- St. Mary's Episcopal in Cadillac

Sincerely,
Linda Wallender

TILL CHRISTMAS COMES AGAIN

Garnett Ann Schultz

*It's time to tuck the tree away,
The ornaments and holly;
Time to wrap the silver bells,
Old Santa Claus so jolly,
The window stars and little elves,
Each wreath upon the door,
The manger scene and sleeping babe
Forgotten as before.*

*It's time the check the Christmas cards,
The greetings, oh, so dear,
The pleasant smiles they brought along
From friends both far and near,
To reminisce on days gone by –
The happy or the sad,
Still clinging to the beautiful
That made a moment glad.*

*The final days of one more year
With Christmas dreams come true,
When hearts then tuck away so much
The season brought to you,
Yet love and faith and gentle peace,
Goodwill and hope to men –
Do make them part of every day
Till Christmas comes again.*

Come And See

John the Baptist was with some of his followers one day when Jesus came walking by. John pointed Jesus out to his followers and two of them started following after Jesus. Jesus asked them, "What are you looking for?" "Teacher, where are you staying?" "Come and see," Jesus says. They come and see. When they go home, one immediately calls his brother to come and see also.

That next day Jesus calls another disciple-to-be, Philip, saying, "Follow me." Philip tells a friend, Nathanael about Jesus, mentioning he's from Nazareth. Nathanael asks skeptically, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Instead of trying to explain, Philip says, "Come and see." Nathanael comes and sees and in seeing, is persuaded. Here, in just a few verses (John 1:35-52) we witness the basics of what is called evangelisms – to invite others into a relationship with Jesus.

Isn't this pretty much how we all got here? We learn from Jesus, who calls us with the simplest of phrases – come and see – Follow me – and who teaches us to call others the same way.

This sounds simple but it's not always easy. Like Jesus, we should be prepared to hear variations on Nathanael's little snide question - 'Can anything good come from the church?' – when we invite others to come and see... Yet what joy we find... when anyone comes, sees, and finds the love of God... for the first time or in deepening relationship... So we need to keep practicing – saying, persistently, creatively, in many ways, for many situations - "Come and see". We learn to say, 'come and see' from the heart... As we invite and encourage friends, family, neighbors, anyone we meet... to seek, find, get to know for the first time... or better than ever... the Jesus we meet in the Bible. We invite and encourage everyone especially to seek and find Jesus in his church, the body of Christ – where, even with all its human faults and failings, we see the ongoing miracle of God taking on human flesh and living among us and Christ empowering us to continue his work on earth.

Together we are the body of Christ, individually members thereof. Our witness as this church can be far greater than the sum of our human parts because of Christ's presence. "Come and see" is often all we need to say. A few words, spoken from the heart at the right time, can make sure a difference in someone's life.

The more we get to know Jesus, the more we realize he knows exactly who we are and still loves us immensely, in spite of all our weakness. Jesus calls us to be a part of his beloved community of faith, hope and love and invites is always to share the invitation we've received to come and see. This is how we journey on together in grace and faith...

Blessings Pastor Jim

JANUARY * FEBRUARY * MARCH 2018 COFFEE SERVERS

January 7 - Esther Ashbay & Karen Peterson
14- Sallie & Nancy Broersma
21- Marilee Benson & Haylee Brinks
28- Tammy Green & Barb George
February 4- Venecia George & Janet Hotchkiss
11- Gail Loeks & Jan Smith
18- Sheila Mannor, Deb Johnson & Jennie Peterson
25- Sheryl Anderson & Mary Kay Moon
March 4- Esther Ashbay & Karen Peterson
11- Sallie & Nancy Broersma
18- Marilee Benson & Haylee Brinks
25- Tammy Green & Barb George – Palm Sunday

PLEASE NOTE: If you can not do cookies on this date, please find someone to take your place or have cookies at church. Thank you.

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JANUARY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSAIRES ***

1- Jim George
5- Gary Brinks
6- Mindy MacIntyre
11- Bruce Raymond
11- Nancy Broersma
12- Steve Broersma
12- Amanda Broersma
21- Hallie Moffit
22- Eric Peterson
28- Dean & Venecia George ***

JANUARY GREETERS

7- Denny & Jan Smith
14- Al & Karen Peterson
21- Tammy Green & Marilee Benson
28- Rick & Sheila Mannor

JANUARY NURSERY

7- Tim Loeks
14- Janet Mort & Nancy Broersma
21- Mary Kay Moon
28- Sheila Mannor & Gail Loeks