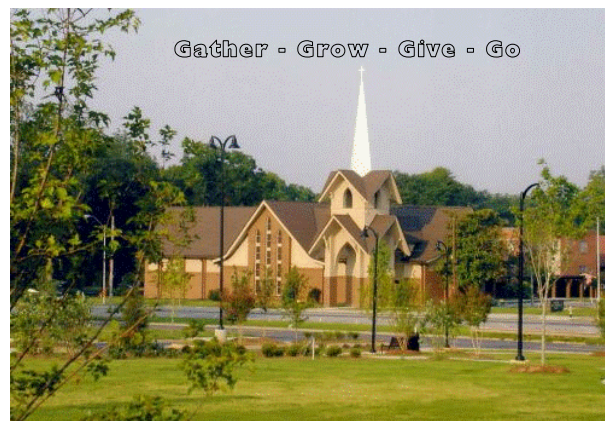


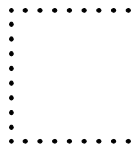
Jonesboro

First United Methodist Church
142 South Main Street
Jonesboro, Georgia 30236



Phone: 770-478-6444
Email: jumc@bellsouth.net
Website: www.jonesboroumc.com

Happy New year to...



Volume 68, Issue 1

January 2012

NEWS and VIEWS

Jonesboro First United Methodist

Good News ... by George!

As we journey into a new year, it is a good time to take stock of where we have been and where we are going. How is it with you? Are you where you want to be? Have you turned the future over to God? Are you experiencing spiritual growth along your journey? That takes faith, you know.

Abraham began his journey without any knowledge of his ultimate destination. He obeyed a noble impulse without any discernment of its consequences. He took "one step," and he did not "ask to see the distant scene." And that is faith, to do God's will here and now, quietly leaving the results to him. Faith is not concerned with the entire chain; its devoted attention is fixed upon the immediate link. Faith is knowledge of a moral process; it is fidelity in a moral act. Faith leaves something to the Lord; it obeys his immediate commandment and leaves to him direction and destiny.

And so faith is accompanied by serenity. "You who carry the vessels of the LORD... shall not go out in haste and you shall not go in flight;" (Isaiah 52:11) – or, more literally, "shall not get into a fuss." The faithful shall not get into a panic, neither fetching fears from yesterdays nor from tomorrows. The prophet continues, "for the LORD will go before you, and the God of Israel will be your rear guard." (Isaiah 52:12) And, verse 13 brings it on home for us, "See, my servant shall prosper; he shall be exalted and lifted up, and shall be very high."

Now, talk about good news! Abraham and Isaiah, both men of the Old Testament who journeyed with God, have a good word for us in the 21st century.

Their sentiments are just as relevant for us as they were for early Christians, who studied them.

In the Isaiah passage, God speaks of the servant, noting his eventual vindication and exaltation. We are to journey through the experiences of life as a servant of the LORD. That's easy to say and hard to "live out." Most of us want to be served.

On Sunday, January 8, we will recognize and install the 2012 Leadership Team. Those who will lead us in the new year have agreed to be faithful in their responsibilities to God and our church mission and ministry. That, of course, means they (we) will be faithful servants. Individual links in the ministry chain.

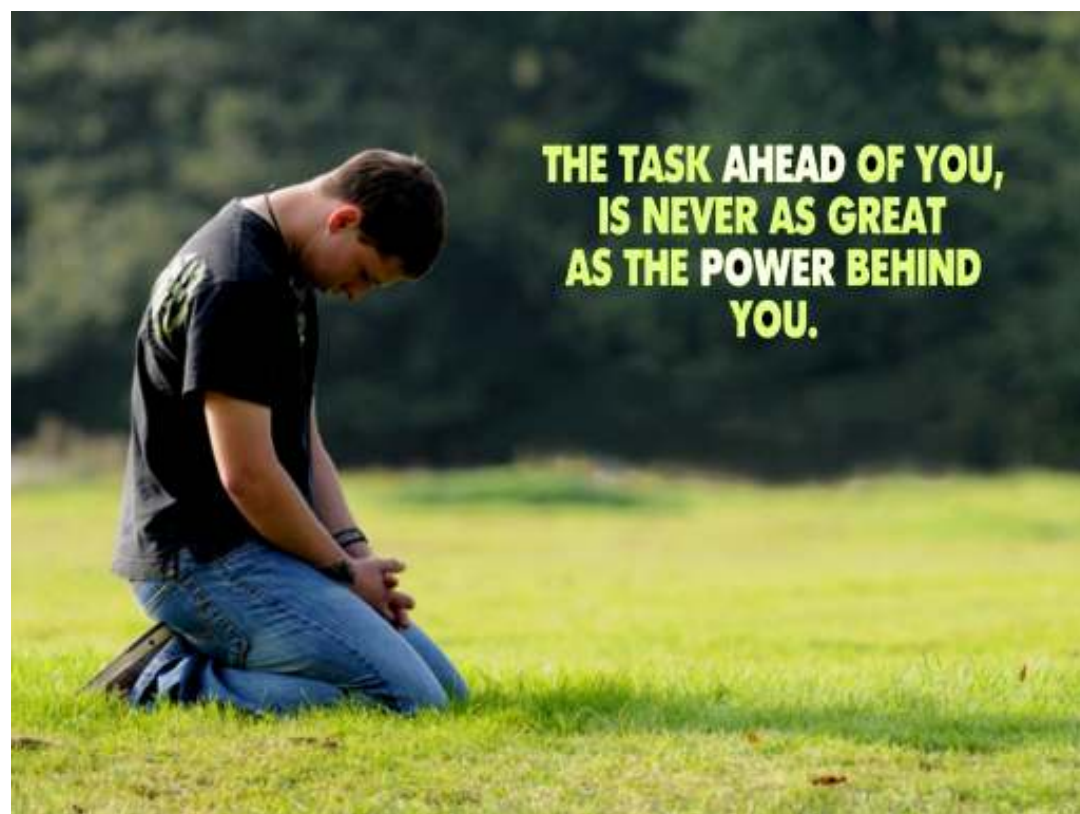
As we continue our covenant with Proactive Ministries, we will become stronger and be better able to see ourselves as servants. The special training we are receiving during the extended weekends will make 2012 a signal year in our servant-leadership roles. I hope you will join with us in each of

these life-changing training sessions. We will host the next one on "Connect Groups" January 20-22. Get involved. Get on the team. Get in the game! Don't be content with just being on the sideline watching as others participate.

I love the story of the quarterback who was realistic about his status on the team. The coach was drilling all the quarterbacks: He said to them, "The ball is on your OWN four yard line. Time is running out. It's third down." Then, the coach looked straight at this boy and said, "Quick now! What would you do?" To which this young man responded without hesitation, "I'd slide down the bench to get a better view of the next play!"

I hope to see you in the game this year!

George



Begin each day of 2012 in prayer and each Sunday in power-filled worship.

We are a Christian community of faith put together by God from people of various backgrounds, experiences and Spiritual Gifts.

- † We believe we are called into an attitude of worship as we **GATHER** on the first day of each week to glorify and enjoy God.
- † We believe we are called into a loving fellowship as we **GROW** in small groups for nurture, support and accountability.
- † We believe we are called to trust God to resource us as we **GIVE** to support God's work and do God's will in our generation.
- † We believe we are called to a life of witness and welcome as we **GO** to share the Good News and make disciples of Christ.



Ministers:

Each Member of Jonesboro First United Methodist Church

2012 Lay Leaders:

David Deitze, Church Lay Leader
 Millie Sharkey, Associate Church Lay Leader
 Bob Keller, Church Council Chair
 Karen Isaacson, Council Secretary
 John Carbo, Finance Committee Chair
 Bob Keller, Staff-Parish Relations Chair
 Rich Kincaid, Board of Trustees Chair
 Carl Presley, Lay Member of Annual Conference
 Julie Brown, Gather Chairperson
 Janet Scarborough, Grow Chairperson
 Terri Williams, Go Chairperson
 Marilyn Robinson, United Methodist Women President

Ordained Clergy and Staff:

The Rev. Dr. Mike Watson, Bishop, North Georgia Conference
 The Rev. Dr. Mike Cash, Superintendent, Griffin District
 The Rev. Dr. George Freeman, Senior Pastor
 George@jonesboroumc.com
 The Rev. Dr. Candy Thacker, Associate Pastor
 Candy@jonesboroumc.com
 The Rev. Ray and Lidia Zirkel, Missionaries to Costa Rica
 Carrie Stanley, Children's Ministry Director
 carrie@jonesboroumc.com
 Alice Myers, Youth Ministry Director
 youth@jonesboroumc.com
 April Salter, PreSchool Director
 jumpstaff@att.net
 Dr. Kurt-Alexander Zeller, Chancel Choir Director
 Kurt@jonesboroumc.com
 Deborah Jones, Chancel Choir Assistant Director
 deborah@dnkent.com
 Ann Manuel, Organist/Accompanist
 jlmanuel@bellsouth.net
 Ed Davis, Orchestra Director
 edencore@bellsouth.net
 Alice Myers, Youth Choir Director
 Melissa Reece, Children's Choirs Director
 Joan Youmans, Church Administrator
 770-478-6444, x-10
 Sandy Matteson, Financial Secretary
 770-478-6444, x-11
 Wendy Powner, Treasurer
 Tripp Sheffield, Custodian

Thank You from Joanne Maples

Thanks so much for the many cards, comforting words, and attendance at my Dad's visitation and funeral. It truly helps to know that JFUMC is a caring congregation in the time of need. May blessings and peace be upon you as you have blessed me.

Needed - Financial Secretary

18 hours a week

Send resume to: keller_r@bellsouth.net

Walk with Wholeness
 Walk with Wholeness

Calvin Center Geneva Lodge

13550 Woolsey Road, Hampton, GA 30228
 Saturday, February 4, 2012
 9:00am - 5:00pm

Ladies, please come and join us in a Walk with Wholeness. We will experience times of study & reflection, worship and activities such as crafts and movement. Breakfast foods and snacks will be served at the Lodge and lunch will be prepared by the dining hall. We will gather beginning at 8:30 am (program starts at 9:00) and adjourn by 5:00 pm. Checks made to UMW can be given to Marilyn Robinson, Marti Slife, the church office, or placed in the offering plate. Register by Sunday, Jan 15 for just \$12.00. Late registration of \$15.00 must be received by Jan 22 to ensure lunch.

Update on...

Elmcroft

The vesper service was held on Sunday, November 27, 2011 at the Elmcroft Assisted Living Center. It should be noted that the name Carestone has been changed to Elmcroft. JUMC participants were David Deitze, and Charlie and Carol VanOver. David gave this month's devotional based on scripture taken from Psalms 100. There were a total of 10 residents in attendance. The service is always held on the 4th Sunday of each month. We need additional individuals to help with the devotional during the upcoming months. If you are willing to assist with this service please contact Carol VanOver at (770-478-9526). You will be blessed! This is a wonderful ministry of our laity.

NEEDED: PRAYER WARRIORS

The prayer team wants to launch one of the 12 prayer strategies: "PRAYING FOR CLERGY & THE WORSHIP SERVICE." In order to accomplish this, we need volunteers who will pray during each service at least one Sunday a month. Therefore we need 8 or more prayer warriors in active service. Please contact Marilyn Robinson (770 389-4309 mostvaluableperson@hotmail.com).



PRAYER WARRIORS

PRAYER CONCERN / MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

Our church has a prayer concern that relates to the **Barnabas Ministry**. We are in need of a Prayer Coordinator as well as a Prayer Administrator. The job description for these two ministry opportunities is:

Prayer Coordinator – also known as Prayer Champion. This person is a major cheerleader in getting people excited about prayer. They pretty much eat, sleep, walk, 24/7 thinking about prayer and ways of involving the church and community in prayer. This person is the major encourager for the prayer team.

Prayer Administrator – this person collects prayer requests from all of the areas of the church and ministries and distributes them where needed. Many of our prayer strategy teams will have prayer requests. The prayer requests will go immediately to the administrator. The administrator sends them out to the prayer team and to anyone else who wants to be involved in prayer. Distribution may occur via email or phone calls.

Church family, please pray earnestly about this matter. The individuals are in our church family and we need God to speak to their heart and encourage them to come forward.

Prayer List

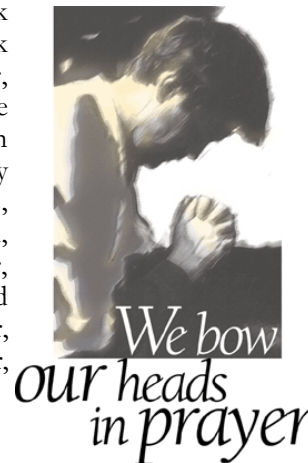
Help us keep this list current.

Kenneth Abels, Alexander Abrams, Lou Astriab, Mae Bell, Pearl Binion (*Valerie Baldonskei's mother*), Valorie Bourne, Brandon Brown, Greg Byers, Lovell Camp, Katrina Cater, Teresa Coleman, Nancy Cranfill, Pablo Criado, Saily Criado (*Lidia Forke's sister*), Delores Crumbley, Constance Cunningham, Belinda Daley, Kacey Ann Dallas, Doug Daniels, Celia Deleone, Donald DesGranges, Albert Dixon, Peggy Dunn, Harry Erholm, Herb Erholm (*Barbara Rice's father*), Linda Eubanks, Esther Fadjei, Angela Frazee, Tiffany Gardner, Patricia Geraci, Monir Haftlang, Phyllis Hampton, Jacey Ann Hand, Elizabeth Harrah, Marie Smith Hewitt, Eric Hinton, Debbie Hitchcock (*Carol VanOver's Sister*), Caden Hooper, Becky Huff, Alfred James, Jr. (*Janet Tyree's nephew*), Malisha Johnson, Crystal Jones, Dylan Jordan, Elijah Kimaru, Gary Lehr, Bryan Lauzon, Gene & Mildred Lawson, Joe Liana, Margie Little, Cal McBroom, Monetta Metzker, Maria Miller, Chuck Moore (*Dana Holmes' brother*), Delany Morgan, Ronnie Morris, Rebecca Newman (*Bernice Brown's sister*), James Norwood, Gerry Perkins (*Virginia Marcus' mother*), Dorothy Pfeifle, Dee Phillips, Martha Pittman, Maybelle Porter, Hoke Propes, JoAnn Quiggins, Pete Rayfield, Angela Renzi, Nancy Rice, Cynthia Rigby, Jack Roberts, Jerry Russell, Ann Ryan, Meko Sasaki, Ray Shafer, Bob Shatterly, Ray Shelton, Deborah Simmons, Bil Slife, Robin Smith, Tim Snipes, Marjorie Deitze Spencer, Elizabeth Stanley, Carol Tanner, Hayden Taylor, Rita Thomson (*Doug's Mother*), Anna Wagner, Kitty Walters, Pat Wilchester, Margie Wilmont, Charles Wilson, Ralph & Rita Wiseman, Martha Wood, Robert Woodall, Marley Young, and Jay Zellner.

Persons in the Military

Please let us know if there are names we may add to or remove from this list.

Lt. Col. Michael Bachmann, Dameon Boffardia, Carl Brostrand V, Joshua Burns, Joseph Connell, Patrick Conroy, Josh Darnell, Tonette Davis, Zack Davis, Darin Eades, Brandon Faulkner, Mathew Ferguson, Robert Gordon, Steve Goto, James Herring, Jamie Heyliger, Ruben Heyliger, B.J. Howell, Sergeant Major Gary Ivey, Brian Jagiel, Nick Jagiel, Jared Jones, Tiffany Knight, Clay Konas, Jason Land, Chris Law, Ron Lundquist, Julia McAllister, Justin Myers, 1st Lt. Kyle Neundorfer, 2nd Lt. Beau Parmer, 1st Sergeant Jim Parmer, Justin Rodgers, Matthew Stegall, Kyle Trotter, Michael Williams and Kent Watson.



Sympathy

Our sincere sympathy is expressed to Miriam Davis and her family on the death of her father, **James Toole**.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

From Carrie...

Happy New Year! We have so much to be excited about this year at JFUMC! We have several new families with young children who are joining us regularly on Sundays and Wednesdays. We are thankful to God for entrusting us with these families and are blessed by the excitement and enthusiasm they bring.

Now is the time to jump into our growing children's ministry. There are countless opportunities for service. We have an elementary Sunday school class which is too large and needs to be split into two classes. The children's church schedule needs additional adults to help one Sunday every other month. Our church is blessed to have two wonderful worship services every Sunday. That means you have the opportunity to worship at 8:30 and serve at 11:00. God has already put some names on my heart, so I'll be making offers to many of you that you won't be able to (or want to) refuse. Children have a surprising way of blessing those who minister to them. When you think about it, many people played an important part in your spiritual development. Remember those Sunday school teachers, youth counselors, and scout leaders? You can probably still name them and picture their faces. You could be that teacher our children remember. We have children (and lots of them) who come to our church every week to hear the Good News. Help me tell it! Expect to hear from me and expect blessings this year!

Carrie Stanley

CONFIRMATION CLASS

Dear Parents and Youth:

Young persons in the 6th -12th grades are welcome to experience Confirmation 2012. This is a fun, exciting time of discovering what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ. Confirmation classes will begin **Sunday, January 8** from 9:45 - 10:45 a.m., meeting in the Youth House. In addition to the Sunday morning classes, there will be field trips, service projects, and a weekend retreat to Camp Glisson in Dahlonega, Georgia. **February 24-26th** is the date of the retreat. The last class is May 27, Pentecost Sunday. On that day, during the 11:00 worship service the confirmands will have the opportunity to make their confession of belief in Jesus Christ, as well as receive baptism. Following worship the celebration will continue with a reception in the courtyard. A sign up sheet is located in the Gathering Area of the Sanctuary. Also, you may contact Alice Myers, our youth director, or Pastor Candy for more information.

Pastor Candy

YOUTH MINISTRY

From Alice...

Through The Looking Glass...

The new year...a time for reflection, fresh starts...and resolutions. I know I tend to make the same resolutions as most of us do - eat healthier, exercise more, lose weight - sound familiar? I make others too that seem easier to keep - read more, go to bed earlier, don't let the laundry pile up - although they might last a while, these too are easily brushed aside and forgotten.



We're taking a different approach in the youth ministry - In Matthew 11:28-30 Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light." We're going to give our hearts some spiritual exercise by getting deeper into The Word and lose some weight by handing over our troubles, our worries, our burdens to the One who loves us most.

Sound like a good resolution to you? It sure does to me! How are we going to do it? One day at a time. Is it really that easy? Some days will be, but others will need extra coverage in prayer and support from friends and family. Remember that EVERY day is a God given gift. EVERY day is a fresh start. Be thankful for it and make it count!

Want to be a part of our fresh start? Give me a call or send me an email - volunteers ready to make a difference in the lives of our youth and ready to have the lives changed by our youth are needed and welcomed!

Resolving to exercise more and lose weight along with you,

Alice Myers

Barnabas Ministry Group

Connect Group Training

January 20-22, 2012



Connect Group Ministry Information

What are Connect Groups?

They are groups of not more than twelve people, which are designed to intentionally connect people to each other in friendship and to connect them more closely to God.

What will the training be about?

We will learn how Connect Groups can bring people together in significant spiritual growth and in the building of NEW, lasting friendships. All who attend will be able to witness the life-changing joy of these groups.

Who should attend the training?

Everyone who desires to see how these vibrant groups, which God is using in amazing ways in churches all across America, can bring another step of growth to our church. As with all Proactive Ministries trainings, we encourage our entire church membership to "come and see" what this ministry is all about. No one will be required to participate in the groups, but all who attend will be welcome to take part if they so desire.

Weekend Schedule:

Friday, January 20th

- 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Dinner
- 7:00 PM - Table Discussions
- 7:45 PM - Worship Service

Saturday, January 21st

- 8:30 AM - Continental Breakfast
- 9:00 AM - Teaching Session
- 12:30 PM - Lunch
- 1:15 PM - Connect Group Sessions
- 2:45 PM - Debriefing on experiences in each of the Connect Groups & "Question Time"
- 3:15 PM - Organizing for ongoing Connect Group Ministry at the church

3:30 PM - Dismiss in prayer

All teaching will be practical, inspirational, and encouraging.


Sunday, January 22nd Worship Services

Held at Jonesboro First UMC

Please register so that we will have enough food and supplies.

January 2012 * Indicates that this activity happens every week.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 EPIPHANY 10:00am Worship Only	2 The Church Office Will Be Closed: 7:00 LAG	3 *7:00 Open Discussion 7:00 TNT 7:00 ACT	4 6:30 Trustees Meeting	5	6	7 9:00 Cub Scouts Pinewood Derby Workshop/CAB
8 Confirmation Class begins Officers/Leaders Recognition and Installation	9 7:00 Finance Committee 7:00 Cub Den Meeting/CAB	10 11:00 Food Co-Op/CAB	11	12 12:00 39er's/CAB 7:00 Church Council	13	14 7:00 Men's Breakfast 
15 Orchestra	16 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Office Closed 7:00 Prayer Shawl Ministry 7:00 Den Mtn.	17 11:00 Retired Teachers/CAB Upper Room Class trip to Varsity/I-Max	18	19	20 Barnabas Weekend at Jonesboro First UMC 6-7:00 Dinner	21 8:30 B'fast 9:00 Teaching 12:30 Lunch 3:30 Dismissal
22 Prayer Shawl Dedication	23 7:00 Cub Den Meeting/CAB	24 11:00 Food Co-Op/CAB	25	26	27	28
29 11:00 Crock Pot Cook-Off/CAB 4:00 District Training/Griffin	30 7:00 Cub Den Meeting/CAB	31 7:00 Worship Committee	Feb 5 SUPER BOWL EXTRAVAGANZA 			



***SUNDAY**

8:30 & 11:00am Worship Services
9:40am Sunday School
5:00 pm Youth Choir
5:30pm Youth Supper
6:00 pm Youth Fellowship (Youth House)



PASTOR GEORGE'S BIBLE STUDY

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS
6:05 - 6:20pm
(Following Dinner)
CHRISTIAN ACTIVITIES BUILDING

***WEDNESDAY**

*5:30pm Dinner
6:05pm Wednesday Wonderings
6:00pm Youth Activities
6:00pm Children's Choirs
6:30pm Orchestra
7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Pray for the mission of our church. Envision what God wants for us in 2012!



Sunday, January 29, 2012

Christian Activities Building

Following S.S. & Worship: 11:00am - 1:00pm

Main Street Class is sponsoring the annual church-wide *Crock-Pot Cook-Off* on Sunday, January 29 -- from 11:00am (for those who come to 8:30 & then Sunday School) until 1:00 pm (for those who worship at 11:00). *Everyone* is encouraged to donate a crock-pot of their favorite dish and *everyone* is invited to eat lunch. Monetary donations will be accepted and proceeds will go towards missions. Remember to bring your muffin tins to make it easier to sample more dishes!

Entry forms for your crock pot dish can be found in the worship bulletins or picked up from the church office. For recipe ideas, go to <http://southernfood.about.com/library/crockpot> or www.justcrockpotrecipes.com. For more information, please call Terri Giles @ 770 471-2932.

This is a wonderful opportunity to fellowship with your friends, relatives, associates and neighbors after you have worshiped. Remember: if you eat without worshipping first, you will get a stomach ache... I'm just say'n...

JOIN PASTOR GEORGE FOR BREAKFAST ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 14
7:00 ~ 8:00AM
ADULT FELLOWSHIP CLASSROOM



EPIPHANY

OUR SERVANTS IN CHRIST FOR JANUARY

Greeters: 8:30 Worship - Susan Wilson, Shirley Brown	11:00 Worship - Evelyn Roberts
Ushers: 8:30 Worship - Rich Kincaid, Johnny Little	11:00 Worship - Tommy Roberts
AV/Sound: 8:30 Worship - Debbie Bonnell/Richard Patterson	11:00 Worship - Danny Swain/Ken Jones
Liturgist: David Deitze	Altar Guild: Sandy Matteson, Joan Youmans;
Paraments: H&H Jones	
11:00 Worship:	
Child.Church:	
Acolytes:	
Bread Bakers:	
Bread Delivery:	

Jan 1	Jan. 8	Jan. 15	Jan. 22	Jan. 29
Communion	Lidia Forkel Carl Rieke	Carrie Stanley	Joy Evans Donald Evans	Claudia Bullington Amy Turner
	Belle Rabideau Shawna Clevenger	Sarah McMillian Shae Dixon	Emily Forkel Claire Bullington	Shane Chine Emma Evans
	Marcia Davis Curtis Burrell	Debbie Bonnell Rich Kincaid	Karen Isaacson Carl Presley	Sharon Foster The Defreese

Wednesday Night Dinner Menu

Jan. 4 Santa Fe Soup Potato Soup Cornbread	Jan. 11 Chicken Strips California Blend Veg. Au Gratin Potatoes	Jan. 18 Meat Loaf Cabbage Creamed Potatoes	Jan. 25 Pork Roast Blackeyed Peas Baked Sweet Potato
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Sunday, January 15: - "Jesus found Philip and said to him, 'Follow me' ... Philip found Nathanael" - JN 1:43