



CLINTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Detours often slow us down, frustrate our plans, and raise our stress. We really don't like detours and that's true whether we're driving down the road or navigating the journey of life! But I'm inviting us to see life's detours differently. Instead of frustration and loss, what if detours could be about learning and growth? What if better navigating detours could transform us, and those around us, in positive life-changing ways?

When I started off our January 2020 "Detours" sermon series with those words, who knew? Who knew 2020 would bring countless detours into our world, nation, community, church and lives? We've experienced so many detours, challenges, and changes; the COVID-19 pandemic, racial injustice, political divisiveness, and more. These many detours have brought frustration, loss, and pain to just about all of us sometime this year.

But just as I did at the beginning, here at the end of 2020 I want to invite you to see the detours differently. What if in detours we can learn and grow in our connection with Jesus Christ in ways that transform us in life-changing positive ways? What if better navigating future detours, could not connect us more deeply with God and also God's purpose for us as individuals and a congregation? What if...

I believe the answer to these "what if" questions is, "YES, WE CAN!" I look forward to our 2021 journey together, detours and all. It's an honor to be your pastor!

Your partner on the journey, Pastor Steve

Next Week's

Scripture Readings:

Sunday: Matthew 2:1-12

Pray and worship Christ the king.

Monday: Ecclesiastes 3:1-15

Pray to know the right time and season for all things in this new year.

Tuesday: Isaiah 60:1-6

Pray that the light that guided the wisemen to Jesus will do the same for you.

Wednesday: Revelation 21:1-5

Pray for the new things of God to quickly come.

Thursday: Matthew 25:31-46

Pray for the faith to do for others, as if you were doing it for Christ.

Friday: Psalm 8:1-9

Pray and praise God's majestic name.

Saturday: Ephesians 3:1-12

Pray to know God with boldness and confidence through faith in Jesus Christ.

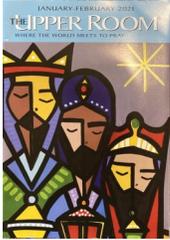


Prayers are needed for:

Bob Wright, Kloi Austin, Larry Robinson, Marilyn Fantz, LouAnna Eckhoff, Linda Courtney, Melvin Dennis

Helpers Needed Next Monday Jan. 4th

Can you help un-decorate the church on Monday, January 4th? We could sure use a hand with this task. Thanks for any help you can give with this project—we do appreciate it (even if it's so sad to see the Christmas decorations go away!)



January/February Upper Room

The new Upper Rooms are available—pick them up at the church rental house office at 602 S. 3rd Street. They'll be on the porch during the week.

2021 Offering Envelopes

For those who use offering envelopes, you can pick them up at the church office at 602 S. 3rd Street from 8AM-3PM. You can also help us by picking up boxes for your friends and neighbors!

Virtual Sunday School!

Don't forget about our virtual Sunday School kids at 9:30 am on Sundays! We have some special treats for you! Check out Facebook and/or website Sunday mornings for this fun video! If you miss it Sunday mornings at 9:30 am, you can watch it anytime during the week!

Building Project Update

Can't wait for our next chili supper? We're all anxious to be able to return to some of our routines, fellowship with our friends, and enjoying a fundraiser dinner at church. It will be just a bit easier after our renovation is complete. In addition to more space for our events, we're also updating the kitchen for our talented volunteer chefs! One of the biggest



upgrades will be a new stove – gas burners in place of the big electric stove we had before... those of you that worked around it are familiar with the glacial pace at which it warmed up – is it on? We are looking forward to so many of the activities that support our youth and our ministry in the community. The upgrades in space, restrooms and kitchen will definitely move us in the right direction! So - do you want yours mild or spicy???



Thursday, December 31st

Office Closes at Noon

Friday, January 1st, 2021

Office Closed

Sunday, January 3rd

8:15 Sunday Service on KDKD and Facebook

9:30 Virtual Sunday School on Facebook /Website

Sunday, January 10th

8:15 Sunday Service on KDKD and Facebook

9:30 Virtual Sunday School on Facebook /Website

3:00-4:30—Drive Thru Communion

UMC CONNECT

660-851-1341

Connect with us! On

Sundays, radio listeners can text messages to this number and let us know they are listening, and opportunities to respond to Steve's thoughts and questions via text messages will arise during the Sunday service. Also, send in prayer requests at any time to this number!

Giving Tithes & Offerings

We appreciate so much your continued support of our congregation. We know that many of you are doing what you can to support the Lord's church, and its mission, even as we are unable to meet on a weekly basis. This includes your financial generosity. See the information below for ways to do that in this time when we are not meeting for worship on Sunday.

Please make separate checks for your regular giving, building fund, Christmas offering or memorial fund giving.

One easy way is to mail your check in—still using the same address as 601 S. 4th Street. Another way is to use your bank's online bill payment system and they will issue a paper check directly to us!

Also, giving to the church online through our website is fast, easy, and secure. To make an online donation:

1. Visit our website at www.clintonumc.net.
2. Locate the "How To Give" tab at the top.
3. Click the "Give" button.
4. Follow the directions to make a donation.

You have options to give to the General Fund, the Building Fund, the Christmas Assistance Fund or memorial funds. Create a login and you can go back and add or change donations! For questions, call Kathy at the church office at 660-885-5597.

Contact Us

Here's how to get in contact with the church staff so we can help you! The church office will remain staffed and the door may be locked but please ring the doorbell and Kathy will come to the door to talk to you, pick up your offering or help you with something. Please wear a mask.

Office—**Kathy Garnett**—
at 602 S. 3rd Street
660-885-5597
office@clintonumc.net

