



# Gulf Breezes

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January, 2019

A new year brings fresh opportunities for spiritual growth. I want to start this year by offering you five quantum leaps of faith for 2019. Each one of these inspiring leaps will challenge your notion of what's doable. If you take them, they'll shift your perspective and redefine what's possible. So, if you're ready to move up from being a disciple to an apostle, this series is for you. If you're ready to catapult from followership to Jesus-style leadership, then read on.

**Leap 1: Be fruitful and multiply like Jesus.** There's more to following Jesus than emulating the spiritual principles He taught. We are also called to multiply ourselves as leaders by passing on our Kingdom vision and values to the people we lead.

**Leap 2: Be empowered like Jesus.** We are not to be hearers of good news only, but doers as well. Jesus authorized His followers again and again to do the very things he did. Discover how to receive His authorization and put it into effect.

**Leap 3: Be accountable like Jesus.** Jesus was accountable to the one He called Father for fulfilling His call. He was rewarded mightily. We too are called to live fully into the gifts we have received and to bear much fruit! Practice owning your own giftedness and being accountable for living into your potential.

**Leap 4: Believe like Jesus.** How did Jesus' followers do all that He did? The answer may surprise you. They had to have the faith He did. Explore what Jesus believed and how we can stretch our faith to believe those things as well.

**Leap 5: Love like Jesus.** Jesus' love transformed the world. Where did it come from and how did He do it? Discover the source of Jesus' love and how to share it with others.

Dear God, I believe I'm ready to move up in your teaching. I sense myself getting prepared to make some big leaps. Open my eyes and my heart. Most especially, dear God, pry open my mind and loosen my limited perceptions. Ready me for the blessings of quantum spirituality in 2019. Amen!

Mike Weaver  
Sr. Pastor  
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## FYII: For Your Information &amp; Interest



Ladies Lunch Out will be at Ruby Tuesday's on Sunday, January 13 at 12:30. Please join us! Contact Sandy Doty at 941- 875-4199 or [ssdoty975@yahoo.com](mailto:ssdoty975@yahoo.com) or Deb Howell at 330-441-2852 or [4debbhowell@gmail.com](mailto:4debbhowell@gmail.com).

## SCRIPTURES FOR JAN., 2019

## SERIES

“Stewardship...Discover This Word and Love It!”

Jan. 6~Matthew 26:6-13

Jan. 13~Kairos Outside

Jan. 20~Acts 20:13-38

Jan. 27~Psalm 8:1-9

## SECRET PRAYER PARTNERS

Mark your calendars for Saturday, Jan 26 at 10:00am. We will meet in #103 for coffee and a snack to reveal for whom we have been praying. See you there. Maryellen



## MEN'S BREAKFAST

The men will meet once this month for fellowship in the form of devotions, breakfast and business decisions.

Come join us! 8:00am, Jan. 15 @ Perkins in North Port.

## 2019 FLOWER CHART

You may reserve your special dates to place flowers on the chancel. When your week comes, you pay for the flowers by putting a check for \$30.00, marked “Flowers” on the memo line, in the offering plate. The chart is on the bulletin board on the Education Wing. Please be sure to note whether you are taking the flowers or not. Flowers left on the altar are taken to our hospitalized, homebound, or given to Tidewell Hospice by our Caring Ministry.



## FUNDING GOD'S MINISTRY for Nov

|                                      |                    |                     |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| <b>TOTAL INCOME</b>                  | \$34,185.59        | \$369,102.33        |
| OPERATING EXPENSE                    | \$8,174.53         | \$87,855.10         |
| EDUCATION/NURTURE                    | \$1,949.36         | \$10,002.33         |
| APPORTIONMENTS                       | \$4,504.90         | \$45,049.00         |
| STAFF SUPPORT                        | <u>\$23,724.76</u> | <u>\$265,392.15</u> |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>                | \$38,353.55        | \$408,298.58        |
| <b>SURPLUS/DEFICIT</b>               | (\$4,167.96)       | (\$39,196.25)       |
| <b>TOTAL INCOME W/Reserved Funds</b> |                    | YTD                 |
|                                      | \$36,391.59        | \$400,308.33        |

|                        |                    |                     |
|------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| OPERATING EXPENSE      | \$8,174.53         | \$87,855.10         |
| EDUCATION/NURTURE      | \$1,949.36         | \$10,002.33         |
| APPORTIONMENTS         | \$4,504.90         | \$45,049.00         |
| STAFF SUPPORT          | <u>\$23,724.76</u> | <u>\$265,392.15</u> |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>  | \$38,353.55        | \$408,298.58        |
| <b>SURPLUS/DEFICIT</b> | (\$1,961.96)       | (\$7,990.25)        |

## END OF YEAR GIVING STATEMENTS

Statements will be emailed in January. Hard copies will be available upon request. Signup sheets are on the boards in the Narthex and Education Wing. They will be in the back of the sanctuary the last two weeks of January or in the office, Mon ~ Thurs, 9-2.

Thank you for your continued gifts and tithes to Gulf Cove UMC through your financial contributions.

## THE ULTIMATE ROAD MAP

Tired of going in circles, I wanted to stop and ask for directions to the Kennedy Library in Boston. My husband, the driver, did not. Eventually I won out. A store clerk was happy to provide a map and point us on our way.

Many of us Christians act like my husband did that day, blithely going on our way, turning here, backtracking there, never really finding what we want in life, but sure that if we follow our nose we'll get there eventually.

The Bible is exactly what we need on our journey: a road map to guide us on our way, to help us around the inevitable wrong turns and errors — and, in the end, to show us the direct path to eternal life with God in heaven.

—Sandy Hyland

**“FOOD FOR THE SOUL”**



Please join us on Wednesday nights for a chance to grow closer to God and others in our church family. Dinner is served from 5:30-

6:00pm. The weekly cost is: \$4/per Adult; \$2.50/per Child under 12; \$12/Family maximum. This month's menu includes

- Jan. 2–Roast Pork
- Jan. 9-Ham Loaf
- Jan. 16–Chili
- Jan. 23-Chicken Alfredo
- Jan. 30-Meatball Soup

Reservation deadline is the previous Sunday--you can list your reservation on the pew attendance pad on Sunday mornings: Mark “W” & the number of people.

Clean-up is at 6pm, then there are various activities for ALL ages. Children have Jesus Rocks in #109/110; Youth, gr. 6-12, meet in P #206; and an adult Bible study, the After Dinner Group, meets in #102. Also the Faithful Ladies Group meets in P #201. At 6:15pm, Genesis Small Group, another adult Bible Study, meets in the #103.

For those who prefer an earlier evening, Pastor Mike leads a Bible study at 4:30pm in P #201 where they study the scripture text he will be using for the following Sunday's sermon. You can join a study group without having dinner; likewise eat dinner without joining a study group. Please make Wednesday nights a time you spend with your church family so you can feed your body...and soul!

- |      |                |      |               |
|------|----------------|------|---------------|
| 1/27 | Kelly Weaver   | 1/28 | Don Zartman   |
| 1/29 | Rick Richter   | 1/30 | Pat Hitchcock |
| 1/31 | Myra Ehnert    | 1/31 | Ron Wolfe     |
| 1/31 | Nadia Carlston |      |               |

**ANNIVERSARIES**  
THIS MONTH

- |      |                        |
|------|------------------------|
| 1/01 | Harold & Dee Grafe     |
| 1/19 | Dick & Susie Morrow    |
| 1/27 | Marty & Carla Wilson   |
| 1/28 | Joseph & Linda Coffey  |
| 1/29 | Tom & MaryEllen Eisele |
| 1/29 | Don & Kris Grein       |

**A PRAYER FOR NEW BEGINNINGS**

In his book *Awed to Heaven, Rooted in Earth* (Fortress Press), Walter Brueggemann writes in an Epiphany poem:

... this is a time to be born.  
 So we turn to you, God of our life  
 God of all our years,  
 God of our beginning....  
 We dare pray that you will do for us  
 and among us and through us  
 what is needful for our newness.  
 Give us the power to be receptive,  
 to take the newness you give ....  
 There is a time to be born, and it is now.  
 We sense the pangs and groans of your newness.  
 Come here now in the name of Jesus. Amen.

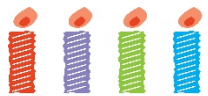
How fitting that the Epiphany season and the new year coincide! Epiphany reveals a new King, the beginning of his ministry, his new disciples, his first healings, his “new teaching – with authority” (Mark 1:27). We, too, experience newness, now and year-round. But newness can be tough. So we trust that God, who “[makes] all things new” while banishing “mourning and crying and pain” (Revelation 21:4-5), walks with us in this new year – and always.

**CPR/AED CLASS TO BE HELD IN JANUARY.**



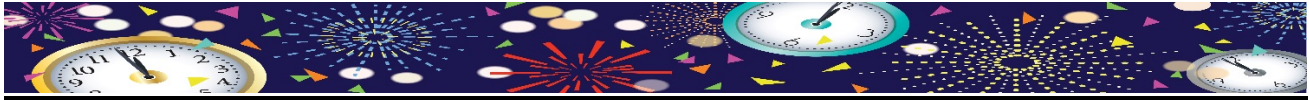
**AED**

Signup sheets are posted in the Narthex and Education Wing. Dave Devilbiss will lead this one day class Jan. 25, at 4:00pm. If you are interested, please sign up or talk to Dave.



**BIRTHDAYS**  
THIS MONTH

- |      |                   |      |                 |
|------|-------------------|------|-----------------|
| 1/01 | Bob Mac Donald    | 1/01 | Dick Morrow     |
| 1/01 | Keith Russell     | 1/02 | Kim Thomas      |
| 1/04 | Bob Gasiorek      | 1/04 | Jim Vanderford  |
| 1/04 | Heather Reid      | 1/05 | Pat Hansell     |
| 1/05 | Christopher Reid  | 1/07 | Helen Boyce     |
| 1/09 | Steve Wohlleb     | 1/11 | Tex Borden      |
| 1/11 | Sue Anne Bruzzese | 1/12 | Jeanne Shrout   |
| 1/12 | Mardy Wilson      | 1/13 | Shureen Nyvold  |
| 1/13 | Janice Botelho    | 1/13 | Linda Thatcher  |
| 1/16 | Pat MacKenzie     | 1/17 | Steve Benz      |
| 1/18 | Edna Bradley      | 1/18 | Dann Franks     |
| 1/18 | Mary Nelle Franks | 1/18 | Susie CvC       |
| 1/19 | Caleb Waterman    | 1/20 | Gerrie McGee    |
| 1/21 | Dan Taylor        | 1/21 | Lorna Ryan      |
| 1/21 | Carrie Humke      | 1/22 | Helen Roberts   |
| 1/23 | Cleo Grayden      | 1/24 | Al Crosby       |
| 1/24 | Anita Ten Brink   | 1/24 | Suzanne Ludwig  |
| 1/24 | Sandy Doty        | 1/24 | Kathy Mortenson |



## Calendar Highlights

|                  |             |            |  |                    |        |      |                                 |
|------------------|-------------|------------|--|--------------------|--------|------|---------------------------------|
| Jan 1            |             | Tues       | Office Closed  | Jan 18             | 6pm    | Fri  | Youth Lock In                   |
| Jan 2            | 9am         | Wed        | Office Open  | Jan 19             | 9:30am | Sat  | Closet of Hope (P#204)          |
| Jan 5            | 9:30am      | Sat        | Closet of Hope (P#204)   | Jan 20             | 4pm    | Sun  | Dinner @ Stephenson's           |
| Jan 6            | 2-6pm       | Sun        | Girl Scout Cookie Rally  | Jan 21             |        | Mon  | Office Closed/MLK Day           |
| Jan 13           | 12:30pm     | Sun        | Ladies Lunch Out   | Jan 22             | 7pm    | Tues | Finance Meeting #103            |
| <b>Jan 14</b>    | <b>12pm</b> | <b>Mon</b> | <b>Newsletter Deadline</b>                                       | Jan 25             | 4pm    | Fri  | CPR Class                       |
|                  | 7pm         |            | Trustee Meeting #103   | Jan. 26            | 10am   | Sat  | Secret Prayer Partners #103     |
| Jan 15           | 8am         | Tues       | GCUM Men's Breakfast   | Jan 28             | 7pm    | Mon  | Church Council Meeting          |
| Jan 16           | 2:30pm      | Wed        | Inglenook Visitation   |                    |        |      |                                 |
| <b>Sundays:</b>  |             |            |  | <b>Wednesdays:</b> |        |      |                                 |
|                  | 8am         |            | Traditional Service  |                    | 12pm   |      | <i>Weekly Bulletin Deadline</i> |
|                  | 9:30am      |            | Contemporary Service   |                    |        |      | Mid-Week Boost Bible Study #102 |
|                  |             |            | Seekers II Sunday School P#201                                   |                    | 4:30pm |      | Pastor's Bible Study P#201      |
|                  |             |            | Kids' Church/Sunday School #109/110                              |                    | 5:30pm |      | Food for the Soul Dinner        |
|                  | 11am        |            | Traditional Service  |                    | 6pm    |      | Jesus Rocks #109/110            |
|                  |             |            | Adult Bible Study #109/110                                       |                    |        |      | Youth Group P#206               |
|                  | 2-5         |            | Girl Scouts Troup #538 (1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> ) #108 |                    |        |      | After Dinner Group #114         |
|                  | 5-7pm       |            | Youth Group P#206  |                    |        |      | Faithful Ladies P#201           |
|                  | 6:30pm      |            | Family Bowling   |                    | 6:15pm |      | Genesis Adult Bible Study #103  |
| <b>Mondays:</b>  |             |            |  | <b>Thursdays:</b>  |        |      |                                 |
|                  | 6:30pm      |            | Girl Scouts Troop #899 (1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> ) #108 |                    | 8am    |      | Grounds Main't Crew @ Barn      |
|                  | 7pm         |            | Boy Scouts P#201   |                    | 9am    |      | Crafty Ladies Oak's Cove        |
|                  | 7:30pm      |            | AA Support Group #109/110  |                    | 4:45pm |      | Handbells Rehearsal P#203       |
| <b>Tuesdays:</b> |             |            |  |                    | 5:30pm |      | Praise Team Rehearsal Sanctuary |
|                  | 1pm         |            | Friend to Friend #109/110  |                    | 6:30pm |      | Choir Rehearsal P#203           |
|                  | 7pm         |            | Al-Anon #109/110   |                    | 6:30pm |      | NA Recovery Meeting #109/110    |



United Methodist Church

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