January 5, 2020—10:30 am Worship & Holy Communion—Second Sunday after Christmas
January 6, 2020—Feast of the Epiphany
January 8, 2020—5:30 pm Chicken Casserole & Vegetables dinner to benefit Narthex Fund
January 12, 2020—10:30 am Worship & Holy Communion—Baptism of Our Lord
January 19, 2020—10:30 am Worship & Holy Communion—2nd Sunday after the Epiphany
January 26, 2020—10:30 am Worship & Holy Communion—3rd Sunday after the Epiphany

Union Lutheran Church
4770 Bringle Ferry Road
Salisbury, NC 28146
Pastor Tom Corbell, Part Time Intentional Interim
cell 704-682-0503 - e-mail pastor@ulcsalisbury.org
Pastor T. C. Plexico - Pastor Emeritus
Organist – Tina Brown – organist@ulcsalisbury.org
Music Director - Sara Welch—email musicdirector@ulcsalisbury.org
Ruth Goodman – Secretary – 704-636-0992 – Cell 704-433-4594 – e-mail office@ulcsalisbury.org
Phil Cauble, Sexton – cell 704-213-0646—email sexton@ulcsalisbury.org

“STEP”
INTO THE NEW YEAR
Make this craft to remember God’s many blessings.
What you need:
• Small stones
• Permanent markers
• Foil pan and cooking spray
• Drop cloth
• Gloves
• Quick-set concrete (and adult help)
• Bucket and paint stirrer
What you do:
1. After reflecting on the past year, use markers to decorate stones with memorable words, dates and drawings.
2. Spray pan with cooking spray. Set pan outside on a drop cloth.
3. Wearing gloves, mix concrete in a bucket, according to instructions.
4. Pour concrete into pan. Smooth top with paint stirrer.
5. Press in stones, handprints and other decorations.
7. Remove from pan.
8. Place the stepping-stone outside as a reminder of God’s continued goodness.

When Joshua and the Israelites crossed the Jordan River, they set up stones for a special reason.

Joshua 4:24, NIV

Answer: So that all the peoples of the earth might know that the hand of

So ______ the ______ the ______

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<tr>
<td>2nd Sunday after Christmas</td>
<td>The Epiphany of Our Lord</td>
<td>2:00 pm Mary &amp; Martha Group</td>
<td>5:30 pm Chicken &amp; Pork Casserole Dinner to benefit Narthex Proj.</td>
<td>10:00 am Good Timers</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 am Confirmation</td>
<td>No Worship &amp; Music Committee Meeting</td>
<td>Union Women</td>
<td>See brochure inside</td>
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<td>9:30 am Sunday School</td>
<td>Anna Petrea Group of Union Women</td>
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<td>7:00 pm Scouts</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30 am Worship Committee Meeting</td>
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<td>5:00 pm Game Night</td>
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<tr>
<td>Baptism of Our Lord</td>
<td>7:00 pm Scouts</td>
<td>11:00 am Messenger Crew</td>
<td>5:00 pm Game Night</td>
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<td>7:30 am Council Mtg.</td>
<td>9:30 am Confirmation</td>
<td>9:30 am Sunday School</td>
<td>10:30 am Worship Holy Communion Svc Narthex Dedication Lunch in LFH</td>
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<td>7:00 pm Scouts</td>
<td>5:00 pm Game Night</td>
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<td>7:00 pm Scouts</td>
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<td>&quot;Messenger Deadline&quot;</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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"Happy New Year"

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. Ecclesiastes 3:11
LAY READERS

5  Denna Lanning & Karen Morgan
12 Denna Lanning & Karen Morgan
19 Denna Lanning & Karen Morgan
26 Denna Lanning & Karen Morgan

ACOYLTE & CRUCIFER

Emma Clifton

FLOWERS

5  Linda Kesler
12 __________
19 __________
26 __________

USHERS

Frank and Dawn Merrell
Mike and Brenda Cauble
Phil and Linda Cauble

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

Cathy Kluttz Painther and Robyn Arey

2020 LAY MINISTERS

Deena Lanning  704-637-0810  John Kesler  704-633-5702
Elbert Kluttz  704-633-3484  Janie Lesley  704-603-8020
Tara Davis  704-637-9334
The Messenger – February 2019

Dear Union Family,
I am writing this on Sunday, January 27, 2019 about five hours after our congregational meeting. The vote was for us to move forward with the Narthex Expansion. We voted to be able to use up to $150,000 of our unrestricted funds from Thrivent to be paid back at 0% interest over a period of ten years.

I am in a reflective mood. I was impressed with the presentation and felt a sense of peace that people expressed their views. Obviously not everyone was happy with the outcome. But I need to share an insight that came to me this afternoon.

Anne and I have been married for 50 years. Notice I didn’t say “happily married”. There have been times in our marriage when things were difficult and we didn’t always agree. But we made an important decision. Our marriage, our relationship, our family and our relationship with Jesus mattered more than anything that could separate us. This past August 10th we had a celebration in our home where there were 54 family and friends gathered. Many knew our journey with its joys and its sorrows.

Speaking about marriage St. Paul also compares the Church as being the Bride of Christ. When Jesus returns the Church/Bride will be presented to the Lord.

Ephesians 5:25-27 (ESV)
25 Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her,
26 that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word,
27 so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.

When that time comes the Church will be cleaned of sin.
27 so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.

But for now, in this present moment, the Church does have blemishes and problems. That is because she is made up of sinners like you and me.

I said in my sermon this morning these words:
We, the church, are being called, here at Union Lutheran, and in many other places, to be one. And we have failed. Failed miserably. There are, indeed, parts who say, “I’m not part of the body.” In fact, I have heard this term often over the past few years: I don’t want to have anything to do with organized religion. Those sentiments are usually birthed by conflict and behavior that is anything but godly.
Union Lutheran is a family in Christ. Families are not called to agree on everything. They are called to love one another regardless of the circumstances. Let me share an insight that I was given by Dr. Clarence Jordan who founded *Koinonia Farm* in Valdosta, Georgia, back in the 1950’s.

Dr. Jordan was talking about how Jesus can use people who are radically different to accomplish His will.

Jesus chose twelve disciples. Two of them were mortal enemies: Simon the Zealot (this is NOT Simon Peter) and Matthew the Tax Collector. Matthew worked for the hated Romans and collected taxes from his fellow Jews and gave the tax money to the roman officials. Zealots were a group of radically committed Jews who swore to kill anyone who collaborated with the Romans. Jordan than said: *I’ll bet Jesus had to, on many occasions, sleep between those two boys to keep them from killing each other.* In the end both Matthew and Simon the Zealot would serve Jesus until death.

We are not called to always agree. We are called to serve the Risen Lord and use our circumstances to His glory. That was true in the first century. It is just as true in the twenty-first century.

God bless and keep each one of you,

Pastor Corbell
The Congregational Council met for its regular monthly meeting on Sunday, December 9th at 7:30 a.m. in the Educational Building. Members attending were: Kay Morgan, Ann Tucker, Janie Lesley, Lynn Coughenour, Phil Cauble, Don Davis, Sonya Mulkey, Cathy Painter, Donnie Miller, and Pastor Tom Corbell. Newly elected members attending were: Lucinda Wilhelm, Ronald Vellines, Jennifer Painter, and Brad Huffman. Gladys Morgan and Pete Nguyen were absent.

A big THANKS to the following members whose terms are ending this month: Donnie Miller, Ann Tucker, and Janie Lesley.

Kay Morgan opened the meeting with a devotional prayer.

The Council Minutes were reviewed from the November meeting as printed in the Messenger. Correction to Cemetery Fund Balance - $587.23. A motion was made by Phil Cauble and seconded by Don Davis to approve the minutes as written with this correction. The motion was approved unanimously.

**Treasurer’s Report**

Current Treasurer’s Report:
The Council reviewed the November, 2019 Treasurer’s Report. A motion was made by Janie Lesley and seconded by Don Davis to approve the Treasurer’s report. The motion was approved unanimously.

**Miscellaneous Funds:**

<table>
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<td>$10,885.16</td>
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<td>Gerald Bame</td>
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<td>$ 21.56 Trunk or Treat</td>
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<td>Landscaping</td>
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A motion was made by Don Davis and seconded by Donnie Miller to accept the Miscellaneous Funds Report as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.
CEMETERY FUND: Don Davis (November, 2019)

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<th>BEGINNING BALANCE</th>
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<td>$ 587.23</td>
<td>$11,340.00</td>
<td>$ 700.00 (Mowing)</td>
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A motion was made by Don Davis and seconded by Lynn Coughenour that we give quarterly reports on our total funds including what is in Thrivent. The motion was passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

SOCIAL MINISTRY: Lynn Coughenour
Balance: $4,693.30

EVANGELISM/MISSION: Janie Lesley
Next meeting will be after Christmas.

YOUTH: Pete Nguyen
Discussed Advent Ball.

STEWARDSHIP/LONG RANGE PLANNING: Gladys Morgan
Will meet Thursday, December 12th at 6:30 p.m.

Long Range Planning would like to have a Wednesday night meal on January 8th at 5:30 p.m. with proceeds going to the Narthex Expansion Project. A motion was made by Lynn Coughenour and seconded by Don Davis to approve this event. The motion was passed unanimously.

PROPERTY/CEMETERY: Phil Cauble
The water fountain in the hallway has been replaced. The work in the Pastor’s office is almost complete. Will put leftover flooring from Pastor’s office in the two small bathrooms in the entrance to the small fellowship building.

A roof leak in the Education Building has been repaired at a cost of $481.50.

WORSHIP & MUSIC: Janie Lesley
Prelude for Christmas Eve Service will begin at 7:45 p.m. with service at 8:00 p.m.
Scout Sunday will be in February.

A motion was made by Cathy Painther and seconded by Don Davis that communion is offered after the Service of Lessons and Carols on December 29th. The motion was passed unanimously.

PARISH STAFF/EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Kay Morgan
The Executive Committee met December 4th.
PLAYGROUND: Donnie Miller
Work will be done soon to complete the picnic area.

OLD BUSINESS:
Sara Welch, Music Director has turned in a Letter of Resignation effective 12/31/19.

NEW BUSINESS:
February 2nd will be Pastor Corbell’s last Sunday as our Interim Pastor.

Kay Morgan and Lynn Coughenour will meet with the Organist and Facilities Manager to renew their contracts.

A motion was made by Janie Lesley and seconded by Don Davis to receive Leda Belk’s Letter of Transfer back into our congregation. She is coming from Wittenberg Lutheran Church in Granite Quarry.

The December 8th Congregational Council Meeting adjourned with prayer by Pastor Corbell.

The Congregational Council will hold their next regular meeting on January 12th at 7:30 a.m. This will be an organizational meeting with election of officers.

THE INFORMATION PRINTED IN THE JANUARY, 2020 MESSENGER WILL BE REVIEWED AND APPROVED AT THE NEXT MEETING.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sonya Mulkey, Secretary
NEW YEAR PRAYER:

Thank You Lord for giving me
The brand new year ahead.
Help me live the way I should
As each new day I tread.
Give me gentle wisdom
That I might help a friend,
Give me strength and courage
So a shoulder I might lend.
The year ahead is empty,
Help me fill it with good things,
Each new day filled with joy
And happiness it brings.
Amen.
Union Lutheran Church

Wednesday, January 8, 2020

Piping hot chicken casserole & vegetables

Dinner starts at 5:30pm

Delicious homemade desserts!

Donations accepted for the Narthex Project

4770 Bringle Ferry Road Salisbury, NC 28146
A joint meeting of the Property and Cemetery Committee was held on Tuesday, December 3, 2019 at 6:30 pm.

The following business was discussed:
The flooring in the the Old Pine Center Restrooms will be replaced soon. Tim Eagle will make necessary repairs to fixtures before the flooring is installed.

A closet has been built in the pastor's office. We will be checking into getting two bookcases for the office as well.

The committees have discussed the much need repair to the ceiling in the Music/Bell Room. The ceiling needs to be scraped, sanded, primed and painted. An estimate will be submitted to Council at the January meeting for approval. This will come as a recommendation from the Property and Cemetery Committee.

It has been requested that a small heater be mounted in the restroom hallway in the Old Pine Center and will be looked into.

Security for the church office such as changing locks with a possible security code to enter and multiple exterior cameras's being placed in the parking lot will be checked on. It was discussed that when the new locks for the office are in place that they should not be duplicated and if someone needs a key the request must come before Council. The estimated cost for this project should be around $1,500.00 with 90 days for the project to be completed. This will come as a recommendation to Council.

The outdoor granite fountain will be restored to working order; the funds for this project have been donated.

Much work has been done (drain pipes installed) to prevent standing water on either side of the front of the church. Sod will be put into place soon. We can use the lower well as irrigation, this well can also service all buildings. The electricity will be restored to the pole light and to the ULC sign donated years ago by the Luther League.

It has been recommended that the septic tank be pumped before the groundwork is complete. This will also come before Council for approval with an estimated cost $250.00.

Phil Cauble will speak to Robert Honeycutt about not mowing the new grass in front of the church as it will need to be push mowed to prevent damage. Phil will also speak to Robert about the height the remaining grassy areas should be cut.

Information respectfully submitted,
Cathy Kluttz Painther
GOOD TIMERS

The Good Timers met for their monthly meeting on Dec. 12, 2019 in the Dutch Meeting Hall with Faye Kesler presiding. Dawn Merrell had devotions entitled “Hurry Up and Get Ready” closing with prayer. The November minutes were read and approved. We had 36 in attendance including visitors, Phil Cauble, Bethany Sinnott, and the “Y” Singers. Offering received was $21.00. The door prize was won by Deena Lanning.

Officers for 2020: Faye Kesler, President
                      Sylvia Peeler, Vice President
                      Ruby Leazer, Secretary
                      John Kesler, Treasurer

Birthdays in December: Pat Kluttz (6)
Anniversaries in December: John & Nancy Kesler (5)
Sick Report: Gladys Morgan, Pat Kluttz both in Autumn Care

Old Business: An update to the challenge to the Good Timers from Dawn Merrell—The money collected will to the “Home of Hope”-Estonia project of Pastor Siimon Haamer (coins with your special year or years). The money collected will be given to Pastor Haamer at Easter, 2020.

New Business: Invitation was given to all to a drop-in at Frank and Dawn’s on December 20th from 2—4 pm.

The program in January, 2020 will be given by Bethany Sinnott, a retired professor from Catawba College.

For lunch in January, we will go to the China Grove Family Restaurant.

The “Y” singers had the program today. They were accompanied by Kathy Norris at the piano. Kathy Norris, wife of Rev. Darrell Norris, former pastor of Union, sings with the “Y” singers. Among their selections today were, “I Saw A Star”, “O Come to my Heart Lord Jesus”, “Sing to The Holy Child”, “Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”, Hark the Herald Angles Sing”, “Silent Night”, and concluded with a medley of Christmas music.

The blessing was given by Deena Lanning before we enjoyed a delicious and plentiful covered dish meal in the Old Pine Center.

Faye Kesler, President
Ruby Leazer, Secretary
At the biannual meeting of Union Women on December 1, 2009, $173.00 was collected as Thanksgiving to go to the Salvation Army.

Yvonne Welton was selected as Union Women President; Lynn Coughenour, Vice President; Ann Tucker, Secretary; and Anna Harrelson, Treasurer.

Cathy Painther, outgoing President, had a devotional about the season: What about our relationship with Jesus?

Leaders for individual groups were selected. In the Anna Petrea Group, Cathy Painther will serve as Presider; Ann Tucker as Recorder; and Joan Troutman as Treasurer.

In the Mary and Martha Group, Doris Shepherd will serve as Presider; Grace Morgan as Recorder; and Doris Page as Treasurer.

Janie Lesley introduced the three musicians from Catawba College. Entertainment included a variety of songs provided by the young guest musicians.

Jan. Meetings—Mary & Martha Group will meet at the church on Tuesday, January 7th at 2:00 pm

The Anna Petrea Group will NOT meet in January. The Group will eat out in February details on where and when will be coming later.
WORSHIP & MUSIC

The Worship and Music met on December 2, 2019 at 6pm with Frank Merrell presiding. Deena Lanning had devotions about “grumblers” closing with prayer. There were 8 members in attendance.

OLD BUSINESS: Christmas program to be presented during the worship hour on Dec. 15, 2019. Treat bags will be given out to the kids after the program.

Dec. 24, 2019—Quiet Communion will be offered to anyone during the noon to 1 pm hour.
   7:45 pm prelude begins
   8:00 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight service
Jan. 12, 2020—Baptism of Our Lord, white paraments
Jan. 19, 2020—2nd Sunday after the Epiphany, green paraments
Feb. 23, 2020—Transfiguration Sunday, white paraments
Feb. 26, 2020—Ash Wednesday with Imposition of Ashes, purple paraments
March 1, 2020—1st Sunday in Lent, purple paraments
April 5, 2020—Palm Sunday, purple paraments
April 9, 2020—Maundy Thursday, stripping of the altar, white paraments
April 10, 2020—Good Friday Service—black/bare
April 12, 2020—Easter Sunday, Resurrection of our Lord, white paraments

NEW BUSINESS: Robyn and Deena are compiling the lists for lay readers, acolytes, and communion assistants.

Thanks to Janie Lesley for serving on this committee. She is going off Worship & Music at the end of 2019.

The next meeting is February 3, 2020 at 6 pm. No meeting in January 2020.

The meeting was adjourned with the Lord’s prayer.

Steve Walton, Chairman
Ruby Leazer, Secretary
CEMETERY FUND

To the Glory of God and in memory of Bob Kesler
by Faye C. Kesler

YOUTH FUND

To the Glory of God and in honor of all those who helped with the Great Rake
by Sarah Bame
by Grace Morgan
by Frances Norris

BUILDING AND REPAIR FUND

To the Glory of God and in honor of Cathy Kluttz Painther
by June Pryor

MUSIC FUND

To the Glory of God and in memory of Bob Kesler and in honor of Faye Kesler
by Bobbie and Jimmy Colelto

NARTHEX EXPANSION PROJECT

To the Glory of God and in loving memory of Betty Jean Fowler Goodwin
by Linda Mitchell - 1008 Ormandy Ave. - Jacksonville, NC  28546-6617

To the Glory of God and in loving memory of Bill Meacham, brother of Frances Norris
by Janet Overcash

To the Glory of God and in honor of my children Jennifer & Scott Curllee
by Cathy Kluttz Painther

To the Glory of God and in honor of Brett, Jacqueline and Peyton Mulkey
by Thad and Sonya Mulkey

To the Glory of God and in honor of Jason, Kaci, Lily and Oakley Kluttz
by Thad and Sonya Mulkey

To the Glory of God and in honor of Janet & Vernon Overcash
by Thad and Sonya Mulkey

To the Glory of God and in Memory of Cecil Mulkey and in honor of Nancy Mulkey
by Thad and Sonya Mulkey

To the Glory of God and in Memory of Charles Huffman
by Thad and Sonya Mulkey

To the Glory of God and in Memory of our Grandparents
by Thad and Sonya Mulkey

To the Glory of God and in loving memory of Adam & Allie Taylor, Taft and Sallie Nunn and our sisters, Sue Eagle & Betty Everette
by Phebe and Marvin Nunn

MEMORIAL FUND

To the Glory of God and in memory of our parents - repair to water fountain front of church
by Gene & Edith Cauble - Old Union Church Road - Salisbury, NC  28146

WITH DEEPEST SYMPATHY
We, the congregation of Union Lutheran Church extend our Christian sympathy, our love, and our prayers to the family and friends of:
Bill Meacham, brother of Frances Norris

CORRESPONDENCE

Dear Union Lutheran Goodtimers,

What a delightful time we had with you today (12/12/2019)! As always, your warm hospitality made us feel so welcome and your meal was just scrumptious. We appreciate so much the monetary gift and will use it to purchase music for our group. We thank you for inviting us to share and wish you all all a Very Merry Christmas and wonderful New Year.

In Christian love,
Kathy Norris, Y Wonders

The monetary gift from my CHURCH FAMILY was greatly appreciated. It is my pleasure to be of service to each of you at any time. May God continue to bless us all as we enter the New Year.

In Christian Love!
Ruth

Remember Our Homebound Members

Michael Walton 630 N. Main Street Landis, NC 28088
Rachel Earnhardt 1820 Earnhardt Road Salisbury, NC 28146
Billy Walier 3665 Bringle Ferry Road Salisbury, NC 28146
Mary Brady 141 Franks Farm Lane Salisbury, NC 28146
Frances Norris 2412 Wedgewood Drive Salisbury, NC 28146-7861
Ray Chambers 7240 Stokes Ferry Rd. Salisbury, NC 28146
Jean Klutz 1375 McCanless Road Salisbury, NC 28146

OUR MEMBERS IN NURSING HOMES:

Zarah Plyler
Jane Peeler
Pat & Wayne Miller
Brenda Mahaley
Ruth Monroe
Gladys Morgan
Pat Kluttz

Autumn Care of Salisbury
1505 Bringle Ferry Road - Salisbury, NC 28146
The Meadows of Rockwell
Bob Wilhelm 612 China Grove Hwy. Rockwell, NC 28138
Ed & Betty Denker Trinity Oaks
728 Klumac Rd., Apt 123B Salisbury, NC 28144
Jean Ray Brookdale Salisbury
Betty Herion 2201 Statesville Blvd. Salisbury, NC 28147
THE HEAVENS PRAISE YOUR WONDERS, O LORD, YOUR FAITHFULNESS TOO, IN THE ASSEMBLY OF THE HOLY ONES.  

(PSALM 89:5 * NIV )

Now in this complicated World we live in, we often overlook or take for granted simple things that are true blessings indeed! However, when we stop and look at life through a child's eyes, we sometimes become more aware of these blessings. So today we will do just that for out of the mouths of babes sometimes comes great wisdom indeed!

After all; GOD PERFORMS WONDERS THAT CANNOT BE FATHOMED, MIRACLES THAT CAN NOT BE COUNTED.  

(JOB 5:9 *NIV )

The Seven Wonders of the World!

A group of students were asked to list what they thought were the present Seven Wonders of the World. Though there was some disagreement, the following got the most votes:

1. Egypt's Great Pyramids
2. Taj Mahal
3. Grand Canyon
4. Panama Canal
5. Empire State Building
6. St. Peter's Basilica
7. China's Great Wall

While gathering the votes, the teacher noted that one quiet student hadn't turned in her paper yet, so she asked the girl if she was having trouble with her list.

The girl replied, "Yes, a little. I couldn't quite make up my mind because there were so many." The teacher said, "Well, tell us what you have, and maybe we can help."

The girl hesitated, then read, "I think the Seven Wonders of the World are:

1. to See
2. to Taste
3. to Touch
4. to Hear
She hesitated a little, and then added,
5. to Feel
6. to Laugh
7. and to Love

The room was so full of silence you could have heard a pin drop. Those things we overlook as simple and "ordinary" are truly wondrous. This is a gentle reminder that the most precious things in life cannot be bought. God gave them to us.

Being happy doesn't mean everything's perfect, it just means you've decided to see beyond the imperfections.
January 2020

Birthdays

1 - Connor Harrington
2 - Vivian Sprinkle
6 - Jerry Taylor
   Karson McDaniel
8 - Anna Louise Parks
13 - Randy Patton
14 - Miranda Thompson
15 - Paul Coughenour
16 - Robyn Arey
18 - Ann Tucker
19 - Hudson Riley Miller
24 - Cathy Painther
25 - L. A. Earnhardt
26 - Danielle Eagle
27 - Steve Bost
28 - Kay Lyons
30 - Lindsay Eagle
31 - Sonya Mulkey
     Christopher Peeler
     Gennene Parker
     Allison Miller

January 2020

Anniversaries

1 - Dillon Broome and Karen Morgan
5 - L. A. and Jimmie Earnhardt
10 - Howell and Teresa Kesler
27 - Norman and Sarah Holshouser
31 - Ray and Sue Chambers