

# Trinity United Methodist Church

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Prayer Ministries of TUMC offers this monthly brochure to our congregation and a circle of interested others as a compact source of daily meditations. We hope the language and the images—the articulations both ancient and modern—will bless you, awaken you, stir your imagination, open you to Sacred Mystery, help you commit to the kind of wholeness that Jesus taught and modeled, and equip you for the daily living of our church's mission statement:

Know God. Be transformed. Love.

## January 2018

## For a New Year

### Monday, January 1

Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.  
Neither is love content with barely working  
no evil to our neighbour. It continually incites us  
to do good: as we have time, and opportunity,  
to do good in every possible kind, and in every  
possible degree to all men.

from a homily by Rev. John Wesley

### Tuesday, January 2

When you do things from your soul,  
you feel a river moving in you, a joy.

Rumi

### Wednesday, January 3

Do all the good you can;  
in all the ways you can;  
to all the people you can;  
and just as long as you can.

from a homily by Rev. John Wesley

### Thursday, January 4

What can I give him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;  
if I were a wise man, I would do my part;  
yet what I can I give him: give my heart.  
UM Hymnal #221, In the Bleak Midwinter, Christina G. Rossetti

### Friday, January 5

Your own soul is nourished  
when you are kind.

Proverbs 11:17

### Saturday, January 6

Moses' face was radiant  
because he had spoken with the Lord.

Exodus 34:29

### January 7, Epiphany Sunday/Baptism of Jesus

Sometimes a light surprises  
the Christian while he sings;  
it is the Lord, who rises  
with healing in his wings.  
When comforts are declining,  
he grants the soul again  
a season of clear shining  
to cheer it after rain.

William Cowper, 1779

### Monday, January 8

Spirit of Holiness,  
let all thy saints adore thy sacred energy,  
and bless thy heart-renewing power.

Hymn #88, "Maker, In Whom We Live," Charles Wesley

### Tuesday, January 9

Here I am!  
I stand at the door and knock.  
If anyone hears my voice  
and opens the door,  
I will come in and eat with that person,  
and they with me.

Revelation 3:20

### Wednesday, January 10

He awakens me morning by morning,  
he awakens my ear  
to listen as a disciple.  
The Lord God has opened my ear;  
and I was not disobedient,  
nor did I turn back.

Isaiah 50:4-5

### Thursday, January 11

Nobody is bored  
when he is trying to make something  
that is beautiful  
or to discover something that is true.

William Inge, American author and playwright

### Friday, January 12

One of the loveliest words in the English  
language is the word "inspiration."  
It signifies again the creative breath.  
It also has to do with spontaneity,  
with the arrival of the  
unexpected image or idea  
in the mind.  
Inspiration is the flash of connecting light  
that suddenly comes from elsewhere  
and illuminates.

John O'Donohue, *To Bless the Space Between*

### Saturday, January 13

The master in the art of living makes little  
distinction between his work and his play, his  
labor and his leisure, his mind and his body, his  
information and his recreation, his love and his  
religion. He hardly knows which is which. He  
simply pursues his vision of excellence at  
whatever he does, leaving others to decide  
whether his is working or playing. To him he's  
always doing both.

James Michener

**January 14, second Sunday after Epiphany**

They called Jesus the light of the world.  
According to Jewish hopes, light was God's  
dream for the world. To live in light rather than  
darkness. A light desires to be seen shining in  
the darkness of our times and lives. Our  
religious and spiritual work is about discerning  
this light and developing the will and the faith  
to live in the light and be guided by the light.

Bill Kerley

**Monday, January 15**

Epiphany: a flash of understanding  
in a prepared mind.

a friend of Prayer Ministries

**Tuesday, January 16**

To live a conscious life,  
we need to constantly refine our hearing.

John O'Donohue, *To Bless the Space Between Us*

**Wednesday, January 17**

It seems as though you neither see God  
by the light of understanding nor feel God  
in the sweetness of love and affection.  
But learn to live with this darkness,  
crying out always to him whom you love.

*The Cloud of Unknowing*

**Thursday, January 18**

Because you are my help,  
I sing in the shadow of your wings.  
My soul clings to you.

Psalms 63:7-8

**Friday, January 19**

Come, Holy Spirit.  
Come, Holy Spirit.  
Come, Holy Spirit.  
Hear us calling, hear us calling to you.  
Come, give your gift;  
come, bring your truth;  
come, be our guide;  
come walk beside.

UM Hymnal Supplement *The Faith We Sing*, #2125

**Saturday, January 20**

She comes sailing on the wind,  
her wings flashing in the sun;  
on a journey just begun,  
she flies on.  
And in the passage of her flight,  
her song rings out through the night,  
full of laughter, full of light,  
she flies on.

UM Hymnal Supplement *The Faith We Sing*, #2122

**January 21, third Sunday after Epiphany**

The Lord, the Lord is my strength  
and my song.

Isaiah 12:2

**Monday, January 22**

"Break forth, O Beauteous heavenly light,  
and usher in the morning."

Johann Rist, a hymn for Epiphany

**Tuesday, January 23**

Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem!  
Your light has come,  
the glory of the Lord shines upon you...  
Nations shall walk by your light,  
and kings by your shining radiance.

Isaiah 60:1-2

**Wednesday, January 24**

Thou dost renew the face of the ground ...  
I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;  
I will sing praise to my God  
while I have my being.

Psalms 104:30b, 33

**Thursday, January 25**

We sing thy goodness all-divine,  
whose radiant beams around us shine;  
'tis through thy goodness we appear,  
preserved to this—  
another year.

Samuel Medley

**Friday, January 26**

Do not withhold good  
when it is in your power to act.

Proverbs 3:27

**Saturday, January 27**

Over the years I have learned  
that "cleaning up one's act" may be far less  
important than consecrating one's life.

Rachel Naomi Remen

**January 28, fourth Sunday after Epiphany**

Thus you shall bless the sons of Israel.  
You shall say to them:  
The Lord bless you, and keep you;  
the Lord make his face shine on you,  
and be gracious to you;  
the Lord lift up his countenance on you,  
and give you peace.

Numbers 6:23b-26

**Monday, January 29**

With a loving spirit,  
While the days are bright,  
Let us work rejoicing,  
Till the dewy night;  
Grateful for the blessings  
Jesus brought to man,  
Let us do for others  
All the good we can.

Fanny Crosby

**Tuesday, January 30**

Let your light shine before men in such a way  
that they may see your good works,  
and glorify your Father who is in heaven.

Jesus, as recorded in Matthew 5:16

**Wednesday, January 31**

From Glory unto Glory!  
O word of stirring cheer,  
as dawns the solemn brightness  
of one more glad new year!

Frances R. Havergal