

# keep in touch



January 18, 2024

In church this last Sunday, we had a reading from 1 Samuel 3:1-11. In this scripture, the prophet Eli has taken an apprentice, a boy named Samuel. In the story, we get a bit of a fun repeated joke where God calls for Samuel, but Samuel mistakes the voice as Eli's. Eli is very confused as to why this boy keeps waking him in the middle of the night until it dawns on him that it is God calling the boy. The scripture tells us that Samuel did not yet know the Lord.

So, I wanted to talk about that. In the Methodist tradition, you could very easily sum up most of our theology with one word: grace! John Wesley was crazy about God's grace! In fact, he even categorized that grace into 3 major types. Today, I want to talk about the first, and that is prevenient grace. Now, we don't use that word much in modern English, but it basically means "before." Think of the "pre" at the beginning of the word, like a pre-game. This is grace that comes before we even understand or know God! God is such a gracious God that he often blesses us before we even know him. God leads people into our lives that love us and introduce us to God's Word, God places us in situations that benefit us, and God nudges us down paths that lead us to him.

For Samuel, we can see that grace in action! He hadn't known the Lord yet, but God was still talking to him! If you read of Samuel's birth, it was also a miracle! His mother couldn't have children, and she prayed very fervently to God to bless her with a son! Samuel had been led to Eli as an apprentice, to learn of God, and now God is once again revealing himself to this boy! God shows people grace, even before they know anything about God! And that is just one way how God reaches out to have a relationship with us!

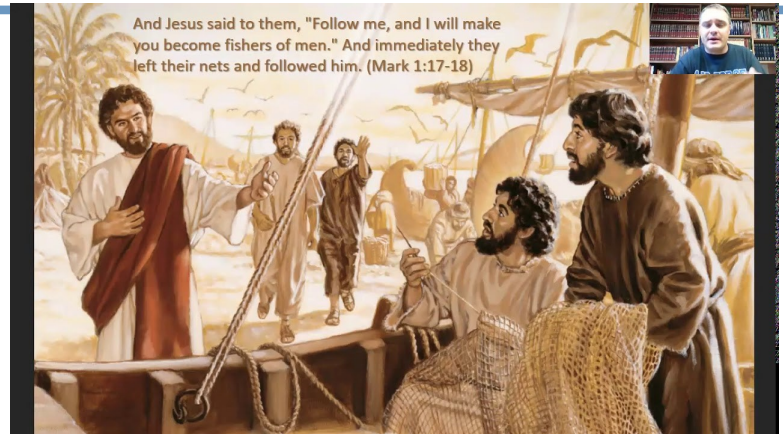
*Blessings*

*Pastor Andrew*



## Sunday January 21, 2024

- ♦ Sunday Services on facebook page: Caldwell UMC Ohio.
- ♦ This Sunday's sermon based on Mark 1:14-20 "Leave the World Behind"
- ♦ Accompanying scripture 1 Corinthians 7:29-31



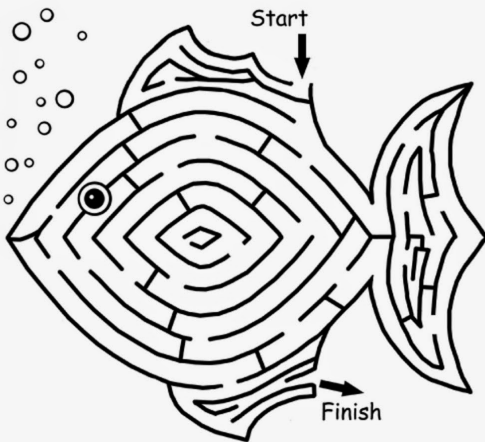
## The Cost of Following Jesus

Jesus replied, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God." Luke 9:62 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Luke 9:57-62 (NIV).

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**I like to follow Jesus!**



**From now on, you will fish for people.  
Luke 5:10b**

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E B Q D O P M G F V V Y K A V  
W W A J P J L F Z Z O X I L N  
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H M H M L X D Z W B K H G S L  
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FOXES	WHEREVER	HOLES	FATHER	FAMILY
PLOW	LOOKS	BIRDS	HAND	KINGDOM
HEAD	ROAD	BACK	PLACE	WALKING
FOLLOW	ALONG	NESTS	BURY	MAN



- 1/21 Carol Merry
- 1/21 Ryan Moorman
- 1/24 Mindy Brooker
- 1/24 Marvin Feldner
- 1/25 Dave Archer
- 1/31 Brena Baker
- 1/31 Sandee Stritz



## "JUST DO IT" DAY

"The best way to not feel hopeless is to get up and do something. Don't wait for good things to happen to you. If you go out and make some good things happen, you will fill the world with hope, you will fill yourself with hope."



Monday morning Bible study

Begins Jan 22 9AM

Study on Job



South Forest District Rally

Sunday 01/28/24

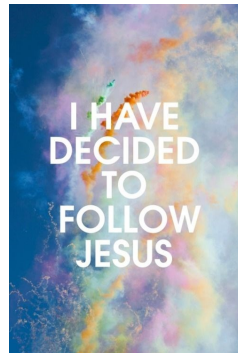
2PM

@Cambridge First UMC

641 Steubenville Ave



An Important Message from  
Bishop Tracy S. Malone



The first Christ Shares a Meal (CSAM) for 2024 is scheduled for Thursday, January 25<sup>th</sup>. Take-out meals will be served from 5:00 to 6:00pm. The menu is baked ham, scalloped potatoes, corn, and a dessert.



COUNT THE **COST?**  
I THOUGHT  
SALVATION WAS  
**FREE?**

IT IS...

**AFTER** YOU LOSE  
YOUR LIFE.

THAT SEEMS LIKE  
A STEEP INITIAL  
INVESTMENT.



WWW.AGNHSDAY.ORG 4RWD

LUKE 14:25-33

© WETZSTEIN 13.09.26

Church Service at Caldwell UMC

10:00 AM Service

9:00 AM Sunday School

REMORSE IS OFTEN THE EGG THAT  
PLEASURE LAID

## National Penguin Day – January 20



Penguins walk around in tuxedos, they have a cute waddle, and they're unique! What's not to love?

Many penguin colonies have been lost to climate change and it's estimated that half the population of emperor penguins will vanish by the end of this century.

Depending on which scientist you ask, there are 17–20 species of penguins alive today, all of which live in the southern half of the globe. Most penguins swim underwater at around four to seven miles per hour (mph), but the fastest penguin—the gentoo (*Pygoscelis papua*)—can reach top speeds of 22 mph!

Penguins are carnivores: they feed on fish, squid, crabs, krill and other seafood they catch while swimming. Like other birds, penguins don't have teeth. Instead, they have backward-facing fleshy spines that line the inside of their mouths. These help them guide their fishy meals down their throat.

Once a year, penguins experience a catastrophic molt. (Yes, that's the official term.) Most birds molt (lose feathers and regrow them) a few at a time throughout the year, but penguins lose them all at once. They can't swim and fish without feathers, so they fatten themselves up beforehand to survive the 2–3 weeks it takes to replace them.



When a male and female bond they create a nest close to the shore where they start life as together as a couple. Couples stay together to raise their young ones; the fathers are very involved in the process from laying and hatching of the eggs to prepping the chicks.

World Penguin Day highlights the numerous challenges penguin species face across their Southern Hemisphere homes. These iconic symbols of Earth's polar regions find themselves grappling with an array of issues that jeopardize their very existence.



## Measure Your Feet Day – January 23

The feet are one of the most overlooked parts of the body. Most people don't give any special attention to their feet. Very few people know their true shoe size, and this means that most people's shoes are either too tight or too loose. This leads to pain and discomfort in the feet.

85% of people in the world underestimate their shoe size by at least a half size. Even in your adult life, your foot size can increase by over-one-and-a-half sizes

The feet are the foundation of the body, and everyone needs to take care of their feet more. Wearing the wrong shoe size can be very uncomfortable and no one should have to do it. No one should have to wear shoes that leave them with pains, blisters, or marks on their feet. Shoes should protect your feet, not injure them.



### April 23 – May 3, 2024

General Conference of The United Methodist Church will convene in Charlotte, North Carolina with the theme ... *And Know That I Am God.*



### June 13-15, 2024

Annual Conference 2024 will convene at the John S. Knight Center in Akron. The conference will again use the quadrennial theme Faith Hope Love.

**Thursday, January 25, 2024, at 12:54 P.M. EST**







An Important Message from  
**Bishop Tracy S. Malone**

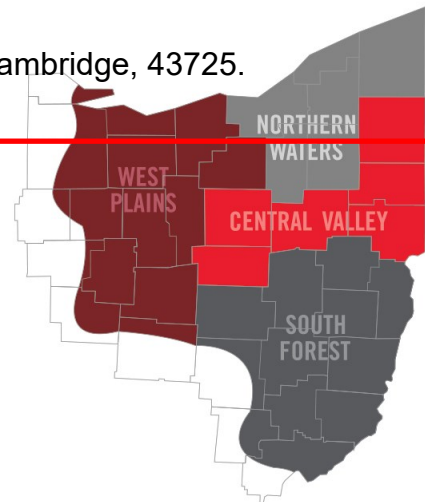


## First Event Set in Each New District – January 27 & 28

On January 1, the East Ohio Conference will transition from 10 to four districts. Clergy and laity are invited to participate in the first gathering in each new district the weekend of January 27-28 for a time of worshipping, connecting, and celebrating together with Bishop Tracy S. Malone, the superintendent teams and leadership in each district, and Conference staff.

**South Forest District** Clergy and laity are invited to participate in the first gathering of the South Forest District. We will meet at Cambridge First UMC at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, **January 28** for a time of worshipping, connecting, and celebrating together with Bishop Tracy S. Malone, district superintendents the Rev. Kelly Brown and the Rev. Laura White, Conference staff, and District leadership.

Cambridge First UMC is located at 641 Steubenville, Ave. in Cambridge, 43725.



**January 20, 1981** - Ronald Reagan became president of the United States at the age of 69, the oldest president to take office. During his inauguration celebrations, he announced that 52 American hostages that had been seized in the U.S. embassy in Tehran, Iran, were being released after 444 days in captivity.

**January 22, 1973** - Abortion became legal in the U.S. as the Supreme Court announced its decision in the case of Roe vs. Wade striking down local state laws restricting abortions in the first six months of pregnancy.

**January 23, 1968** - The American ship USS Pueblo was seized by North Koreans in the Sea of Japan amid claims the Navy ship was spying. The ship was confiscated and its crew held in captivity until December, with one fatality.

**January 24, 1848** - The California gold rush began with the accidental discovery of the precious metal near Coloma during construction of a Sutter's sawmill.

**January 25, 1947** - Gangster Al Capone, who once controlled organized crime in Chicago, died in Miami at age 48 from syphilis.

**January 27, 1973** - U.S. involvement in the **Vietnam War** ended as North Vietnamese and American representatives signed an agreement in Paris. The U.S. agreed to remove all remaining troops within 60 days thus ending the longest war in American history. Over 58,000 Americans had been killed, 300,000 wounded and 2,500 declared missing. A total of 566 prisoners-of-war had been held by the North Vietnamese during the war, with 55 reported deaths.



**January 30, 1968** - Beginning of the **Tet Offensive in Vietnam** as North Vietnamese troops attacked 36 provincial capitals and 5 major cities in South Vietnam, including an attack on the U.S. Embassy in Saigon and the presidential palace. Although U.S. forces eventually fended off the massive surprise attack and achieved a military victory, Tet became a propaganda victory for the Vietnamese due in part to graphic news reports on television which helped turn U.S. public opinion against continuation of the war.



**January 28, 1986** - The U.S. Space Shuttle **Challenger exploded** 74 seconds into its flight, killing seven persons, including Christa McAuliffe, a teacher who was to be the first ordinary citizen in space.



**January 29, 1919** - The 18th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution (Prohibition Amendment) was ratified. For nearly 14 years, until December 5, 1933, the manufacture, transportation, and sale of alcoholic beverages were illegal in the United States. The Amendment had the unexpected result of causing enormous growth of organized crime which provided bootleg liquor to thirsty Americans.



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## A Scripture a day...



JANUARY 19 - PROMISE #19

**I will bless your life and keep watch over you always.**

Numbers 6:24

JANUARY 20 - PROMISE #20

**If you search for Me with all your heart, you will find me.**  
Jeremiah 29:13

JANUARY 21 - PROMISE #21

**I will shield your life and deliver you from the wicked.**  
Psalms 97:10

JANUARY 22 - PROMISE #22

**Cast all your worries on Me, for I really care about you.**  
1 Peter 5:7

JANUARY 23 - PROMISE #23

**I will not let you be tested beyond what you can endure.**  
1 Corinthians 10:13

JANUARY 24 - PROMISE #24

**My love will persevere through every situation.**  
1 Corinthians 13:4-7

JANUARY 25 - PROMISE #25

**I will not withhold anything good from those with an upright heart.**  
Psalms 84:11

JANUARY 26 - PROMISE #26

**I look after foreigners and I help the fatherless and the widow.**  
Psalms 146:9

JANUARY 27 - PROMISE #27

**I will guard those who have a childlike heart.**  
Psalms 116:6

JANUARY 28 - PROMISE #28

**You are more than a conqueror through My love in Jesus Christ.**  
Romans 8:37

JANUARY 29 - PROMISE #29

**When Jesus appears, you will receive a crown of glory that will never dim.**  
1 Peter 5:4

JANUARY 30 - PROMISE #30

**At the end of the age, My righteous ones will shine like the sun in My kingdom.**  
Matthew 13:43

JANUARY 31 - PROMISE #31

**Not one of My promises will ever fail you.**