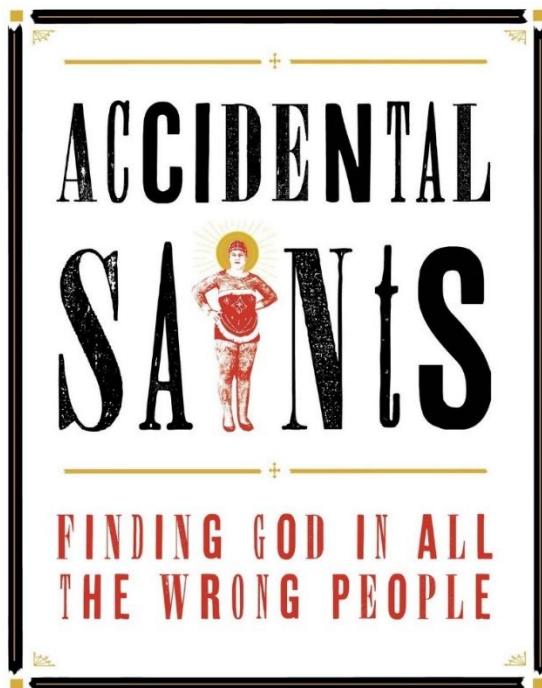

The Cornerstone

The stone which the builders rejected has become the head of the corner. This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

Psalm 118:22-23

VOLUME LXXIII NUMBER 5

January 30, 2025



In this month of February, when love is celebrated, I invite us to consider the unexpected people in life who provide opportunities to encounter God's grace. Very often, people who go unnoticed and are marginalized are the people God is using to make God's self known. People whom we may think are the "wrong people" to be witnesses of God. People who become accidental saints, instruments of God's message and presence. There is profound wisdom in the forgotten people of our world. So, this month's worship series, *Accidental Saints*, will wake you up to a new paradigm of acceptance, where judgment is replaced with love and truth is not separated from honesty.

This Sunday we will look at the story of Joseph in Genesis 50:15-21. Joseph persevered through heartbreaking situations and against all odds, to remain faithful and dependent on God. Joseph could have become a bitter and vengeful man, but instead he chose the way of faithful service and forgiveness. This story challenges us to look deep within to see how we have overcome adversity and where God is calling us to forgive others and live out a spirit of servanthood.

I look forward to seeing each of you, God's Accidental Saints of TODAY, gathered for Worship and Holy Communion this Sunday. See you in Church, Jill



**4th Sunday After Epiphany
February 2, 2025**

Counters: Patty Aria, John Montgomery, Judy Gorra

Greeter: Barbara Gruezke

Usher: Kitty Amato

Acolyte: Ashley Bailey

Lay Reader: Pam Puryear

Fellowship Hosts: Scott & Russel Danielson

Altar Flowers:

Given in loving memory of Betty Beckmann's birthday by Peggy, Kenneth, & Kimberly.
Given by Maha Boutros in honor of the February birthdays of Awni Boutros & grandson, Joseph (2/1).



**5th Sunday After Epiphany
February 9, 2025**

Counters: Kitty Amato, Peg Kuchen, Chip Stoll

Greeter: Len Gruezke

Ushers: Greg Scott, Robert Scott

Acolyte: Faye Snorton

Lay Reader: Ron Puryear

Fellowship Host: Bonnie McNamara

Altar Flowers:

Given in loving memory of Tom Maher by Diane.
Given by Pat Aria in honor of her dear friend, Ruth DeBruin, aged 107

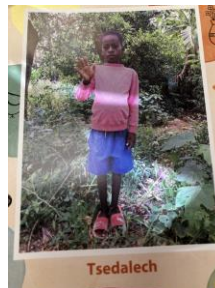


No More Pull Tabs!

Because there is no local place to donate them, the UWIF will no longer be collecting aluminum pull tabs. A huge thank you to Alice Timms and Shirley Bailey who have counted and delivered thousands of tabs over the past many years.

World Vision Child

It's time to sign up to sponsor our World Vision Child. **The following months are available: May, June, & November.**



You may dedicate your sponsorship in memory of or in honor of loved ones or to mark a special occasion. The donation amount is \$39. Please contact the church office.



Java with Jill

Join Jill at the Blue Swan Diner
for coffee and conversation

(or the drink of your preference).

This informal time of fellowship will be
every 4th Tuesday at 10:00 a.m.

Mark your calendars: **February 25th**

Tsedalech Tesfaye, our World Vision Child from Ethiopia, is sponsored for the month of January by Diane Maher.



Something to think about:

What if, today, we were grateful for everything?



If you would like to purchase a personalized brick for the Prayer Garden, please complete the form attached to the *Cornerstone* on or before March 1, 2025. The bricks will be dedicated to the Prayer Garden at the sunrise service Easter morning.

Questions can be forwarded to Jennifer Scisco at jeniscis@gmail.com

OUR JANUARY COMMUNION OFFERING BENEFITS THE PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND



Mercy Center Collection

Mercy Center is in need of the following items: canned or bagged beans, no-salt/low-sodium canned vegetables, canned tomatoes, organic or low-sodium spaghetti sauce, whole-grain and low-salt crackers, low-sugar fiber cereal, unsweetened oatmeal, unsweetened dried fruit or nuts, canned fruit, no-sugar added applesauce, low-sodium soup, canned or instant potatoes, whole-wheat pasta, olive or canola oils, vinegar, low-sodium soy sauce, dried herbs, evaporated skim milk, salsa, taco kits, non-stick cooking spray, condiments, all-natural jams/jellies, no-sugar or salt added peanut or almond butter, 100% fruit or vegetable juice, bottled water, Pediasure, Ensure, low-sugar Gatorade, coffee, tea, dye-free/fragrance-free wipes, toothpaste, toothbrushes, & hand sanitizer.



Our homebound: David Miller, Bev Itell, Virginia Haydu, Bob Sproat, Bertha Ahrens, Cary Carlisle, Priscilla Smith, Madeline Starkey, Pam Miller, Nancy Burt, Shirley Bailey, Elaine Gould

Genesis: Cliff Miller

Our church family at a distance: Barbara Novick, Jean Gillette, Laura Eble



Our 2025 calendars have arrived! Our thanks to Fiore-Buckley Funeral Home for this gift. You may pick one up on the table in the foyer.



WEEKLY BIBLE READINGS

February 2-February 8

Jeremiah 1:4-10

Psalm 71:1-6

I Corinthians 13:1-13

Luke 4:21-30



The February Hush by Thomas Higgins

Snow o'er the darkening moorlands,
Flakes fill the quiet air;
Drifts in the forest hollows,
And a soft mask everywhere.
The nearest twig on the pine-tree
Looks blue through the whitening sky,
And the clinging beech-leaves rustle
Though never a wind goes by.
But there's red on the wildrose berries,
And red in the lovely glow
On the cheeks of the child beside me,
That once were pale, like snow.



The Little Free Pantry

Please think of stocking applesauce, canned beans, canned chicken, canned fish, canned meat, canned vegetables, cooking oils, crackers, dried herbs, spices, canned fruit, dried fruit, granola bars, instant mashed potatoes, meals in a box, nuts, pasta, peanut butter, rice, shelf-stable milk, powdered milk, soup, stew, chili, & whole grain cereal in the bench.

A good idea this week:
Oatmeal