

**THIS WEEKEND AT CASEY UMC:**

**RESET** series continues with an January 17th sermon entitled,  
*Dream a Better Dream*

**Read Genesis 37.3-11 and Matthew 25.14-30  
in preparation.**

**January 24 Message – *Letting Go of Grudges*  
\*January 31 Message – *Pressing On*  
\*This concludes the *Days of Elijah Series***

**LENT begins with Ash Wednesday Services on  
February 10, 2016  
We will offer 2 services  
(both including the imposition of ashes)  
at Noon and 7 p.m. in the sanctuary**

**PASTOR'S PEN**

I do love a good New Year, filled with possibility and promise! I always find myself dreaming new dreams and pondering new adventures and resolving to make changes that will help me be better in spirit, mind, and body. I'm going to grow in my faith, and read more, and exercise more (and eat less!). Every January finds me energized to try new things, read new books, offer new classes, take new classes and work on fresh sermons and worship services....I do love what I do. I love writing sermons and leading worship and teaching classes and talking about Jesus and visiting with people and talking with them about issues they are facing and encouraging others to discover and deepen a relationship with Jesus Christ. I do love being a pastor. It is a profound privilege. And I always remember this verse that my ordaining Bishop – David Lawson – shared with us ordinands at a retreat, a month or so before we were ordained: *Think of us in this way, as servants of Christ and stewards of God's mysteries. Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy.* – 1 Corinthians 4.1-2

I am so awed and overjoyed and privileged to be a servant of Christ, and it is my solid intention and delight, to prove trustworthy in that work!

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I wonder sometimes if others feel this way about January and life and their jobs... What about you? Are you excited by the New Year? Do you see 2016 as a clean slate, a fresh start? Is your future filled with possibility and promise? Are you dreaming any good dreams on these cold winter days? And what about your jobs? Do you love what you do? Does it excite and energize you to get up and go to work? Does it feel like a privilege to have the job you have? If not, why not? If not, how do you know how and when to make a change? And what change to make? Maybe it's time to hit "reset".... Start fresh. Get out of the rut you're in... Or maybe your future's so bright, you gotta wear shades!

Whatever the new year holds for us all, we can be confident that Jesus is with us and will help guide us through. He is, after all, Emmanuel, and he came to give us life, abundant and eternal (John 10.10)!

Have a Happy New Year, lived in the grace and favor of God!  
Pastor Penny

**HERE WE GROW AGAIN!!**

**Welcome to our newest Casey UMC Members:**

**Jake Hoult**, our Contemporary Worship Leader, officially joined our church family by *Profession of Faith* on November 8th, 2015. Jake is a freshman at Lincoln Trail College, studying music and is already a gifted musician with a heart for Jesus Christ. Be sure and welcome Jake to the church family when you next see him!

**Baptisms:**

We also had the privilege of baptizing 5 of our infants in December. On December 6 we baptized:

**Liam David Schaefer**, born October 28, 2015

**Max Allen Schaefer**, born June 6, 2014

(children of **Will and Korie Schaefer**)

And

**Asher David Rhoads**, born February 8, 2015

**Ryder Allen Rhoads**, born February 8, 2015

(children of **Brian and Kacie Rhoads**)

Then on December 27, we baptized:

**Blake Leon Edens**, born December 16, 2014

(son of **Michael and Karri Edens**)

What a tremendous blessing to have these 5 youngsters join the family of God and the Casey UMC, through the power and gift of baptism! Be sure and welcome each of them, next time you see them...

**\*\*\*\*\*OFFICIAL NOTICE:\*\*\*\*\***

**CASEY UMC CHARGE CONFERENCE**

**Sunday, January 31, 2016**

**@ 11:45 a.m.**

**In the church sanctuary**

Our District Superintendent, Rev. Dr. Scott Grulke, has authorized our Pastor – Rev. Dr. Penelope H. Barber – to conduct a Charge Conference on Sunday, January 31, for the sole purpose of acting on a recommendation from the Casey UMC Trustees. A Charge Conference is required because the proposal alters the property holdings of the Casey UMC. Specifically, the Trustees are bringing the following proposal:

**\*\*\*As of September 3, 2015: We, the trustees of the Casey UMC, recommend to the Casey UMC, that we deed 4 ft. of the property on the Western edge of the parsonage lot (located at 706 E. Washington Ave.), to the present next-door neighbor, Robert Brown.\*\*\***

This action would clean up the property line between the two properties, since Mr. Brown's clothes line and about 4 inches of his porch presently sit on the parsonage lot.

\*Since this is a Charge Conference, all MEMBERS of the church who attend the called meeting will have a vote. Non-members may certainly attend and have voice, but they do not get to vote on the proposal. As per our rules of Discipline, all the members present at the meeting will constitute a quorum.

If you have questions or comments about this proposal, feel free to speak with Pastor Penny Barber (217-932-3115) or Trustee Chair Phil Reeds (217-232-4442).

## **JANUARY 2016 CLASSES:**

### **INTRO TO STAINED GLASS**

**When: Tuesday, January 26, 2016**

**Class 1 = 1-4 p.m.**

**or**

**Class 2 = 6-9 p.m.**

**[choose whichever time works better for you]**

**Where: Home of Bob and Carol Thompson  
(102 Jessica Lane)**

**Cost: \$ 15 per student  
(checks made out to Casey UMC)**

**What to bring: A pair of safety goggles**

Master Stained Glass designer, Bob Thompson, has graciously offered to teach a beginner class to introduce interested students to the beauty and art of stained glass. Students must be 18 or older, and each student will choose, design, create and take home their project. Choose one class or the other and class size is limited to 8 students, so sign up today!

You can do so online at [www.caseyumc.org](http://www.caseyumc.org) (click on the link in the "stained glass class") or by calling the church office.

## **FEBRUARY 2016 CLASS:**

**Designed especially for those over 50 years old:**

**PASTOR PENNY is offering a  
Six-week BOOK CLUB/BIBLE STUDY on**

***Living with Purpose in a Worn-Out Body*  
By Missy Buchanan**

Writing from the perspective of a frail elderly person, the author articulates what many older people find hard to say, and in doing so, she offers them the strength and comfort of being understood. From feelings of loss and loneliness to resignation and courage, the study will move from a particular challenge of the worn-out body, to the larger perspective and the faithful response. Well-chosen passages from the Psalms mirror the speaker's feelings, and exhortations from the New Testament stir hope. It becomes clear that "living with purpose" in older age, is an extension of the challenges lived all along one's years – learning to offer one's will to God's, trusting God's grace to open up seemingly closed situations, and continuing to respond with the joy and fortitude of faith.

**This class will meet in the church parlor on  
Wednesday mornings at 10:15 a.m.  
February 3, 2016 - March 9, 2016**

Books are \$12 and can be picked up in the church office.

**Evangelism Team presents:  
A WEEKEND WITH JIM OZIER  
(motivational speaker/preacher and church coach)**

**Coming to Casey UMC  
April 29, April 30 and May 1, 2016**

Jim will be preaching on Friday evening, leading us in a workshop on Saturday, and preaching at both the 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services on Sunday!

His workshops and seminars are fast-paced, interactive and engaging with lots of laughter, stories, and discussion. Focus is on three key areas:

- creating a culture of hospitality
- improving pastoral transitions
- moving plateaued churches to the next level of growth.

*“I absolutely love coming alongside pastors and churches to help them get clear on their culture, improve their hospitality, and accelerate their growth... even if they are going through a pastoral transition!”– Jim Ozier*

*Mark your calendars now and plan on joining us for a wonderfully reviving weekend!*

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**Quote of the month:**

*“When ministry becomes performance, then the sanctuary becomes a theater, the congregation becomes an audience, worship becomes entertainment, and people’s applause and approval become the measure of success. But when ministry is for the glory of God, His presence moves into the sanctuary. Even the unsaved visitor will fall down on his/her face, worship God, and confess that God is among us...”*

*- Dr. Richard L. Moore  
(evangelist)*

**OUR NEXT**

**CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP SERVICE**

**Sunday, February 14 @ 6 p.m.**

**FREE MONDAY MEAL**

Casey UMC will be sponsoring the Community Free Monday Meal on Monday, **February 15** from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

**Thank You**

Friends at Casey UMC,  
Thank you for your kindness and generosity to our ministry. May the Lord of Peace fill your hearts this season. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.  
Your friends,  
Jesus Es El Señor UMC

Thank you so much to all of our church family for thinking of us this Christmas season. Your gifts, cards and goodies were greatly appreciated (and very delicious!). We are so thankful for the loving and caring church family of Casey UMC.

Doug, Shelby, Robin, & Noah Cummins

**Tote A Meal**

Casey UMC is scheduled to deliver Tote A Meal on January 18, 19 & 21. Anyone willing to deliver meals for this ministry may sign up outside the office.