

# hands & feet

A monthly newsletter of the Webster United Church of Christ, Federated

## Mark Your Calendar

Every Tuesday  
6:30pm (6pm dinner)  
Bible 101  
Small Group Study

Sunday, January 19,  
after worship  
Monthly brunch and  
birthday celebration

Sunday, February 9,  
after worship  
Annual Meeting

Sunday, February 16,  
Membership Sunday



## EDITORIAL

Dear friends in Christ,

We've all just been handed something very special: a "brand, spanking-new" New Year with which to do some very special things.

OR not. It's really up to us.

Newness is something that is very popular in our American culture. Who doesn't enjoy that "new car" smell, that fresh-out-of-the box aroma of a new pair of leather shoes, or the feel of that nice Christmas sweater you just opened?

Do you have a New Year's Resolution?

Even now, New Year's resolutions have that new car smell at the moment. Our resolve is high to make this year different than other years. But if the truth be told, the average time between the moment we make our resolutions and their demise is a sad three weeks. By that time all the newness has been aired out of them – and they become mere chores. It's one of the reasons I don't make resolutions.

Instead, I'd like to offer us a different focus on the year ahead. What are the most important "supplies" that you will need for the journey? When you think about the most challenging times in your life, what are the most important things that have tided you over?

Personally, I can think of some precious things that have gotten me through.

(continued on page 2)



## JANUARY 2025 EDITION

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come."

2 Corinthians 5:17



## EDITORIAL (conclusion)

The majority of these things take up little or no physical space, which make sense because Jesus always encouraged his disciples to travel light. In Mark 6:8-9, Jesus “charged them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; but to wear sandals and not put on two tunics.”

His point was to focus them, not to be impoverished, but to clear their vision of material things so that they can clearly see the most precious provisions of all: other people, and the presence of God in those people.

What precious things should I take on my New Year's Journey?

Of the most precious things on my journey, I count the kind presence of friends in dark hours. I stockpile in my mind the sound of their voices. I also hoard up

within my soul those moments when I have been transported by beauty far beyond the ordinary. The ring of truth in scripture; a perfect poem, or word of wisdom from a spiritual master. And those amazing moments when I hear the voice of God through music or nature. You know these moments when you experience this soul-stirring, as you listen to a baby cooing, spend time with your favorite pet, watch a beautiful rainbow and are overwhelmed by the creative presence of God, laugh through your tears as you reminisce with a friend, send a beautiful card that you know will be appreciated by someone lonely, serve a hot meal to someone who lives outdoors...

This is what matters. These should be our new year resolutions.

In Christ,

Pastor Sabina

### Thanksgiving Community Meal

Thanks to the donations of our generous congregation and community, we were able to host 38 people at our free community Thanksgiving meal, on Thanksgiving day!

We served 3 turkeys with all the trimmings, and pie galore!! Thanks also to our hard-working volunteers!



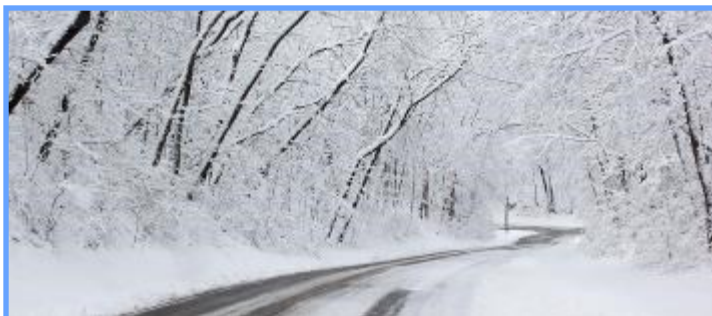




“And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.”

Revelation 21:5

Verse of the Month



## PRAYER OF THE MONTH

Bless this month of January, Lord, that it may be a time of spiritual renewal and personal growth. Help me to set aside past regrets and to move forward with the confidence that comes from knowing You are with me in all things. Amen.



Threads of Hope

Our free clothing closet is in need of supplies! Your help is appreciated with the following items:

Men:  
Sweatpants and pants in smaller sizes

Sweatshirts in all sizes

Toddler/children/youth: all sizes, girls, boys

Clothing and coats

Winter boots

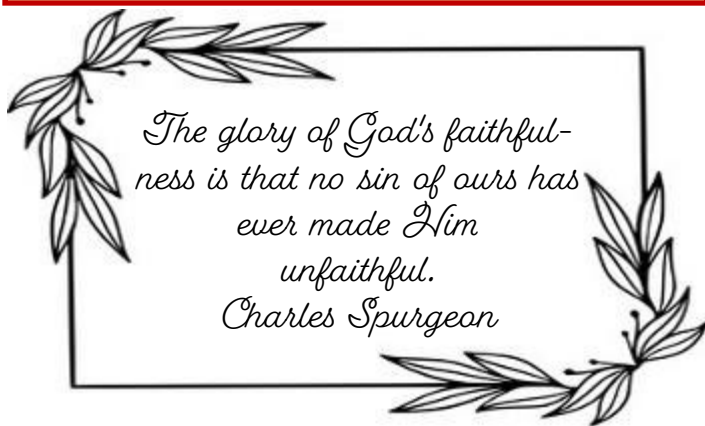
Winter gloves and hats

Winter boots for men and women

Hygiene products (bodywash, shampoo, deodorant), full size please.

Tents, tarps, hand/feet/body warmers, blankets.

Please spread the word!

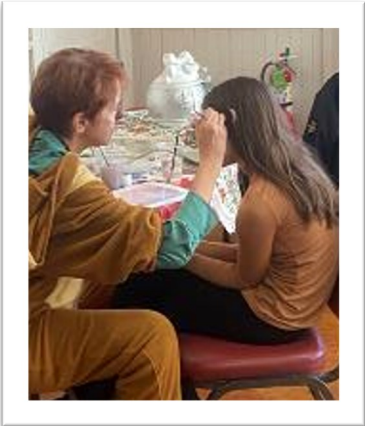
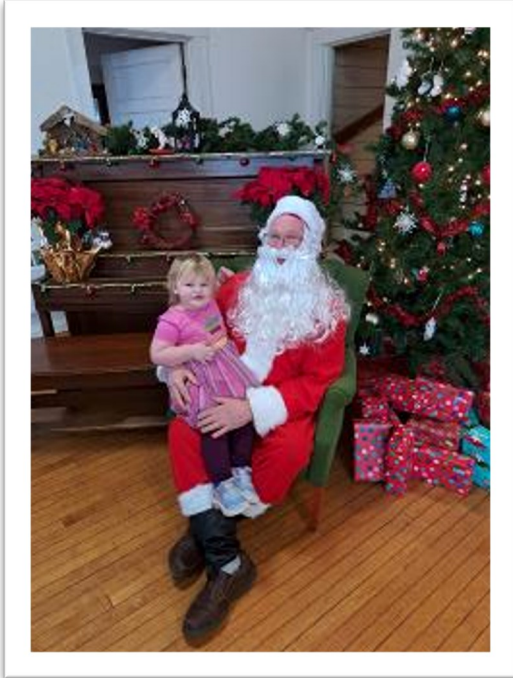
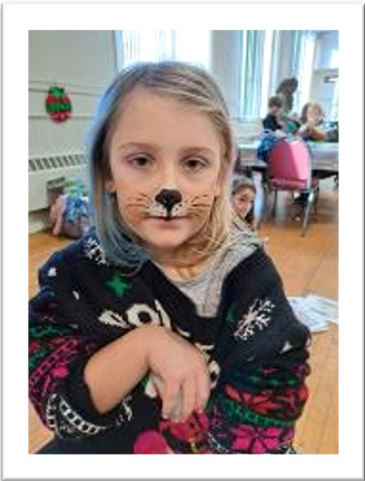


**everyone  
is equal in  
GOD'S  
eyes, why  
not yours?**





Community Christmas Party!







Our Blue Christmas Service was held in the Chapel.



An impromptu choir got together to sing "Little drummer Boy".



Christmas Eve was beautiful and candlelit!

**The Work of Christmas**  
 By Howard Thurman

When the song of the angels is stilled,  
 When the star in the sky is gone,  
 When the kings and princes are home,  
 When the shepherds are back with their flocks,  
 The work of Christmas begins:  
 To find the lost,  
 To heal the broken,  
 To feed the hungry,  
 To release the prisoner,  
 To rebuild the nations,  
 To bring peace among the people,  
 To make music in the heart.

# MONTHLY DEVOTION

## January — Courage for the Days Ahead

*Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go. (Joshua 1:9)*

Each year at this time, thousands of people stand in the cold in Times Square, New York. No big event beckons them. No ballgame is being played. No rock concert is getting underway. It's simply a huge, lighted ball that drops from a tall building. And within a few seconds, hardly worth fighting traffic and crowd pushing for, it descends marking a new year.

Why has this nonevent turned into a huge, money-making holiday? Most other holidays celebrate a reputable person, famous birthdays, document signings, or a noted event. But New Year's Eve only celebrates the passage of time—something that most of us would rather not recognize. We make a huge deal out of it

because it signals the end of an old era and the start of a new one.

The old year's problems, heartaches, and struggles seem to vanish and become a faded memory when we think of getting the chance of a new year and a new start. It must have been the same way for the Israelites when they stood with Joshua looking forward to a new era ahead of them. They had wandered for 40 years in the desert, and finally they could see land flowing with milk and honey ahead. Better yet, they had God's promise that He would never leave or forsake them. As you stand with your back to the old year and look forward to the new one, you can have hope in the promises of God. You will certainly face both trying and joyful times ahead, but you can rest assured that He "will never leave you nor forsake you" (Joshua 1:5). That promise is enough to celebrate the new year ahead!

**PRAYER CHALLENGE:** Ask God to give you courage, strength, and faith in Him to face the days ahead. Thank Him for being faithful and for never leaving your side.

Source: [Crosswalk.com](http://Crosswalk.com)

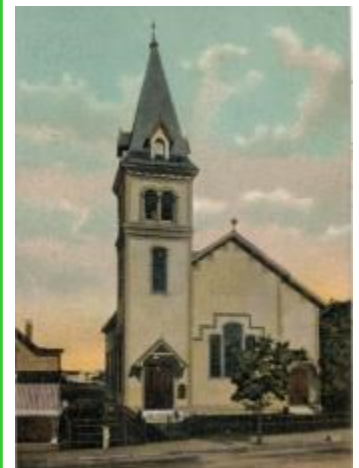


## FEED MY SHEEP

### January Soup Supper Menu

Thursdays 5:00 - 6:00

Date	Soup 1	Soup 2	Sandwich	Dessert
1/2/25	Chicken with Vegetables and Orzo	Italian Wedding	Ham Salad	Cake
1/9/25	Broccoli Cheddar	Beef Stew	Turkey Salad	Chocolate Pudding
1/16/25	Corn Chowder	Chicken Noodle	Meatball	Assorted Desserts
1/23/25	Ham & Potato	Tomato Basil	Tuna Salad	Cupcakes
1/30/25	Hearty Hamburger	Vegetable	Ham Salad	Bread Pudding



A bit of trivia: Do you remember this church?



Date	Scripture	Sermon
01/12 Baptism of the Lord	Luke 3:15-17, 21-22	"Not My Job"
01/19	John 2:11	"A Full Cellar"
01/26	1 Corinthians 12:12-31a	"Unity in Diversity"
02/02	Luke 2:22-40	"God of the Powerless"
02/09	Luke 5:1-11	"Row Your Boat"

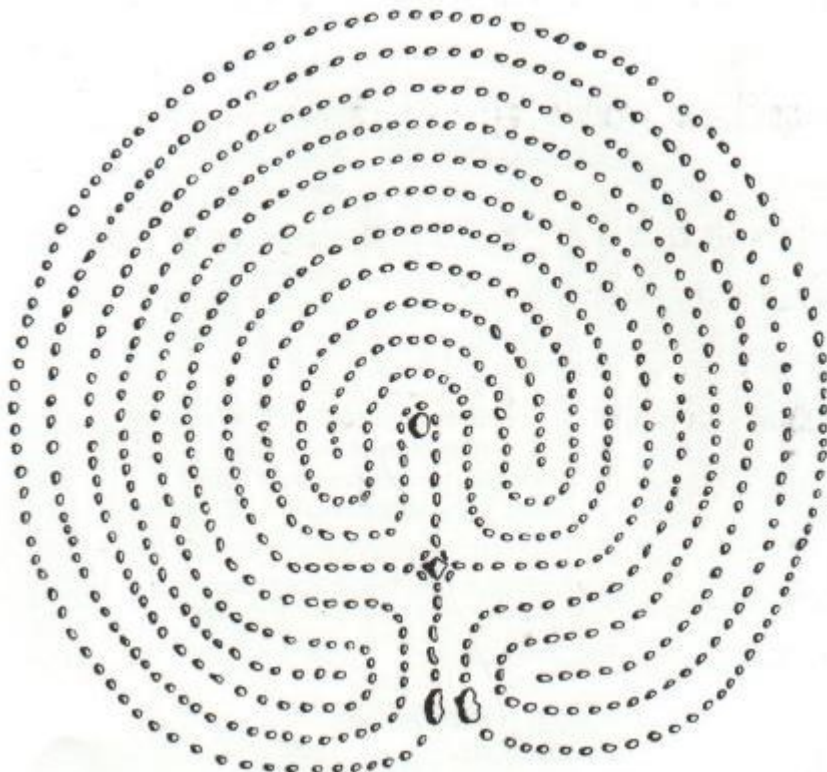
**Basic Bible 101**

01/14: Numbers and Deuteronomy  
 01/21: Joshua  
 01/28: Judges  
 02/04: Ruth  
 02/11: 1 and 2 Samuel



## Bible Word Search

## Books of the Old Testament



## BIBLE Q&amp;A

(answers next month)

1. True or False: The Bible is the most popular book ever written. (by copies sold)
2. What is the first book in the Bible?
3. How many days did God take to create the world?
4. Who was the first man?
5. Who was the first woman?
6. Where did Adam and Eve live at the beginning of the world?
7. Who were their three sons listed in the Bible?
8. Who did God tell to build an ark?
9. How many days and nights did it rain when Noah was on the ark?
10. What was God's sign to Noah that he would never destroy the earth again?
11. How many brothers did Joseph have?
12. What did Jacob give Joseph that sparked jealousy from his siblings?
13. What did Joseph tell his brothers about his dreams that upset them?
14. How did Moses' mother save him from the Egyptian soldiers?
15. Through what did God speak to Moses in the desert?
16. What did Moses say God commanded the Pharaoh to do?
17. Question: How many plagues did God send on Egypt?

# United Church of Christ, Federated

*"Come as you are, we mean it!"*

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A monthly newsletter of the Webster United Methodist Church Federated

**OFFICE HOURS:** Tuesday through Friday, 9:30-1, or by appointment

**WORSHIP:** Sundays at 10, in person and live on Facebook

**BIBLE STUDY:** Tuesdays at 6:30 (free dinner at 6)

**THREADS OF HOPE** (free clothing, hygiene products,...): Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9-11,  
Thursdays 4-7, 1st Sunday of the month, 12-3

**FEED MY SHEEP FREE MEAL MINISTRY:** Thursdays, 5

**GOLDEN BEES SLEEPING BAG MINISTRY:** Mondays, 9-12

**OUTDOOR FOOD PANTRY:** Ongoing