

THE REAL 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

In Christian tradition, the true 12 days of Christmas is a holy time of celebration. The period begins **Christmas Day** and concludes Jan. 6 with **Epiphany**. You can learn more about this time of celebration below.

The first day of Christmas (25TH) is, of course, Christmas Day, the Nativity of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. In the Christian tradition, it is preceded by Advent, a time of preparation and celebration for the 12 days of Christmas.

The second day (26th), we celebrate the feast of Saint Stephen, Deacon and Martyr, the first Christian to die for his faith in Christ.

This day (27th) celebrates the life of Saint John the Evangelist, "the disciple whom Christ loved," and the only one of the Apostles not to die a martyr's death. He is honored as a martyr for the incidents that he suffered while proclaiming the Faith of Christ.

The fourth day of Christmas (28th) honors the memory of the Holy Innocents, all of the young boys slaughtered at the command of King Herod when he hoped to kill the newborn Jesus.

This day (29th) celebrates the faith of Thomas Becket, the archbishop of Canterbury, who was martyred for his defense of the rights of the Church against King Henry II.

On this day (30th), the faithful celebrate the Holy Family: the Blessed Virgin Mary, the mother of Jesus; Saint Joseph, His foster father; and Christ Himself. Together, they form the model for all Christian families.

The seventh day of Christmas (31st) celebrates the life of Saint Silvester, the pope who reigned during the incredibly tumultuous times of the Donatist schism and the Arian heresy in the fourth century A.D.

This day falls on Jan. 1, and it honors the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. Faithful worshippers recite special prayers to honor the role that the Blessed Virgin Mary played in Christian salvation and devotion to Jesus Christ.

On the ninth day of Christmas (Jan. 2nd), the faithful celebrate two of the original Eastern Doctors of the Church: Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen. Both bore witness to the orthodox teaching in the face of the Arian heresy.

Today (Jan. 3rd), Christians venerate the Holy Name of Jesus, at which "every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord" (Philippians 2:10-11).

This day (Jan, 4th) honors Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton (1774-1821), or Mother Seton as she is often known, who was the first native-born American saint.

On the final day of Christmas (Jan. 5th - Twelfth Night), the faithful celebrate the feast of the Epiphany of Our Lord, the day on which Christ's divinity was revealed to the Gentiles in the form of the Three Wise Men.



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

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RUPERT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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FEEDING MIND, BODY, SOUL

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Listening For God

Rev. David Madden

How do we know when God is talking to us? I believe God shows up not as an audible voice but as a feeling. This feeling can be that uneasy feeling, when I am finishing that last bight of pie that tells me, you shouldn't have done that. Or, when we are at a cross roads in life and we make a decision that results in a sense of ease and comfort.

When we are listening to God life seems to slow down, we are less stressed, and we are no longer frustrated or angry. It's like we have stopped fighting life. God's plan for us is to not be in constant struggle with life. Life is not meant to be a battle within ourselves.

Can life be difficult? Of course it can. Nobody is telling us life is easy. But, we can make life easier on ourselves when we stop fighting what we want, and give God a try.

Once we are following God, we will still experience problems and setbacks, but we will intuitively know how to handle them. We will face life with less worry, and our stress levels will be at a minimum.

Intuition is the whisper of the soul

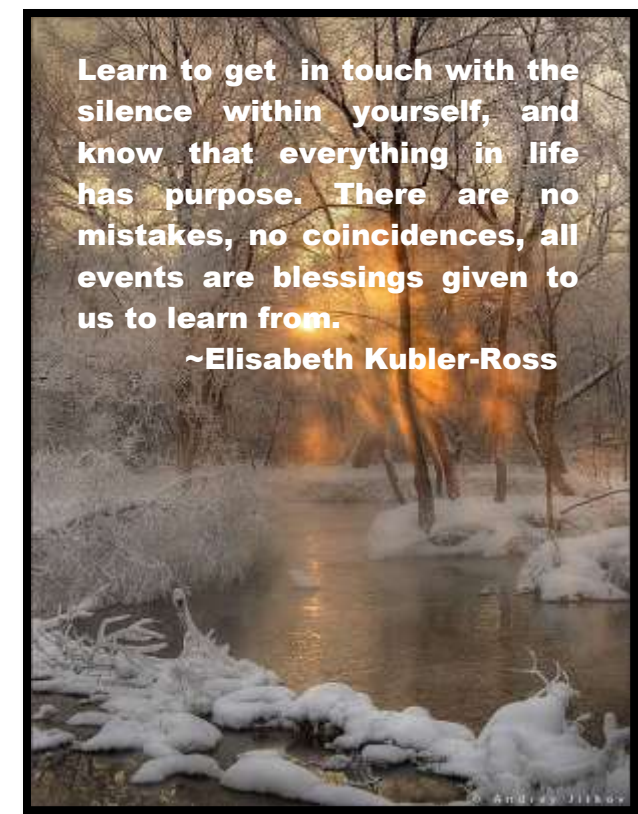
So, how do we know we are listening to God? First of all, turn off the outside noise and interference. Turn off the perpetual negative loop in your head that uses words like can't, no way, and never.



Take some time, sit quietly with your creator, and the voice of God will fill your heart, your mind, and your soul with intuition. And then you will experience that sense of ease and comfort that is the love, and the voice of God.

Learn to get in touch with the silence within yourself, and know that everything in life has purpose. There are no mistakes, no coincidences, all events are blessings given to us to learn from.

~Elisabeth Kubler-Ross



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Office Hours: Mon, Tues,
Wed., 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Food Pantry: Mon. & Wed.,
11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Rev. David Madden is in the
office on Mon. thru Thurs.
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and by
appointment. 436-3354
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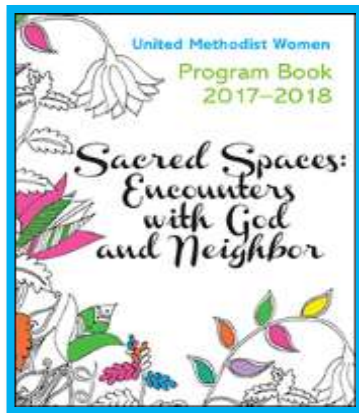
Access Sunday sermons and special music at: <http://www.youtube.com/user/RUMC83350>

Radio Station KUMC LP 101.7 FM owned and operated by the Rupert UMC
Listen to live broadcast of Sunday worship service at 11:00 a.m.
Service re-broadcast at 5:00 p.m. on Thursdays



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Please note the following changes for the United Methodist Women's meetings for 2018

- The monthly Executive and General Meeting have been changed from the first Tuesday of each month to the second Tuesday of each month.
- On Tues., January 9th, their first meeting of the new year, there will be no Executive Meeting, and the General Meeting will begin at 1:00 p.m.
- Grace Circle has moved their monthly meeting from the second Tuesday of each month to the third Tuesday of each month.
- Wesleyan Circle has moved their monthly meeting from the 2nd Thursday of each month to the third Thursday of each month.

The 2018 program booklets, should be available by Sunday, January 7th. All meeting dates and times for 2018 are listed in this booklet.



You can drop Rev. Keith Wise a note or card of encouragement to:

Keith Wise
301 SW 28th Dr. #103
Pendleton, OR 97801

Offering Envelopes



There are no offering envelopes available this month. They have been ordered, however have not yet been received. Please do not let this be a deterrent to sending your regular monthly donation.

We will accept your donation in any ole' plain envelope address to, RUMC. P.O. Box 804, Rupert, ID 83350. Thank you.



2018 sign-up sheets have been out for a month. It certainly cuts down on needing to call people to serve each week, if you put your name down on dates you are able to serve as - Lay Reader, Greeter(s), & Hospitality. There are also sheets to sign up for Altar Flowers (\$11.00 per bouquet) and Radio Broadcasts (\$20.00 per spot). The office appreciates those who say, I'm willing to serve anytime there is an opening, just give me a heads up.



A Church Directory for 2018 is in the process of being updated, as well as our data base. For your convenience, there is a form enclosed with this newsletter for you to fill out with your current info. Please include the following information for those living in your household: name, address, land-line phone, cell phone, email address, birthdates and anniversary dates. We do not want anyone to be left off of our monthly birthday & anniversary list, and from time to time we send out informational emails concerning church events & prayer requests.



There are many, many people to thank for the successful distribution of 100 Christmas Food Boxes. First a big thank you to members of RUMC who helped so much in giving donations of food, money to buy food, helping to fill 100 boxes and help on distribution day. We could not have done it without your desire to help. I would surely leave someone out if we tried to name each individual. Just know you are greatly appreciated.

We also need to thank these groups for thinking of our food pantry during the months of November and December with large donations of either food or money: The Bishop's Storehouse (cranberry sauce), The Minidoka area Boy Scouts (loads of canned food), Trinity Lutheran Church (large load of canned goods), St. Matthew's Episcopal Church Guild (\$200) & canned goods from the congregation, The Idahoan Co.(100 pkgs. potato flakes), Paul United Methodist Church(\$600), The American Legion(huge amount of canned goods), Kat Kountry Radio in partnership with Stokes Grocery (100 turkeys), and Minidoka Memorial Hospital (large amount of canned goods).

So now the holidays are over, however, the need for pantry items is continuous. Right now, the shelves are in pretty good shape. We DO need lots and lots of toilet tissue! Thanks for your help.



Potato Bar



Minidoka Christian Edu. Assoc. Annual Potato Bar With all the Trimmings

Sunday, January 28. 2018
11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Receive your special Guiding Star Word for 2018 on Sunday, January 7th, Epiphany Sunday.



owned & operated by
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It is time for a short note from the desk of KUMC-LP. As we all can see, it is the end of a not-to-perfect year, but it is better than other places I've read and heard about, so I have no real complaints.

Here is an observation from yours truly. I have noticed that in regards to the weekly sign-up sheet in support of the radio station's Sunday broadcast, there have been few to no sign-ups most of the time. I feel it is because in our minds we think, I go to church and hear in real time what is said, so why do I need to hear it as a rebroadcast later in the week! Well folks it is not always for your benefit, rather it is for those in the community that are not able to make it to church, or who are not of our faith but still like to listen to what is being said. They have the opportunity to listen live on Sunday mornings, or later in the week as a rebroadcast of the service. The amount paid for a broadcast sponsorship will help keep us on the air.

I will keep doing this as long as you support the station, but if the support for our community is no longer apparent, I will no longer do what God has asked me to do. I feel we all have a purpose in life. This radio station is a part of our community. Let's try to make 2018 a better year than the last. May God be with you all.

JOHN - KUMCLP 101.7 FM

(Note from the office - It is important to support the radio station. We appreciate all of you who have sponsored spots for the Sunday service. We do have silent donors who wish to remain unseen and unheard. Thank you.)

The Brown-Bag Pipe Organist will be "practicing" on Tuesday, January 9 and Tuesday, January 23, both beginning at Noon. Bring a lunch and invite someone to come with you. You'll be glad you came.