



The Pleasant News

Sunday Worship 10:00am
Bible Study 9:00am

Pastor Christine Fodrea

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Mt. Pleasant United Methodist Church

January 2026

Pastoral Ponderings

So we begin another year. We look back at where we have been, all of the time with family, all of the stress of job and all of the gracious mercies Christ has shown us, in good times as well as in bad.



What moved you to be baptized? What circumstances brought you to the church to make the statement you believed in Chris and wanted to be a part of His Holy family. We remember our baptism by maintaining our spiritual practices. Read and study your Bible, pray, and continue to come to church for fellowship in the body of Christ.

In the beginning, God created the heavens, the earth, the plants, the animals, and then He created us. God worked. He then put us in the garden to care for His creation and gave us people to care for as well. Our work is to care for His plants, animals and most of all His children.

When we do our work as God has called us, our work is beautiful. Each of us doing what God has called us to do according to our gifts and talents as His creation. Our work can be hard and frustrating, but when we step back and look at not only how our work fits in with God's creation, but also how our work glorifies God, we see our work is beautiful.

We are called to use our gifts and talents for the glory of God in doing the work He assigns us to do. But, just as God rested when His work was done, we too need rest. God commands us to remember the 7th day as a sabbath, keep it Holy, and rest.

We look forward to growing closer to Christ. We look forward to working for Him by just being who He made us to be. We look forward to seeing the gracious mercies and miracles He has in store for us.

Tell me about Baptism

Baptism is a sacrament based in the Jewish ritual washing to cleanse or wash away your sin and renew your connection to the church. The Jewish ritual requires submersion up to the head in running water.

There is BIG controversy over whether a child should be baptized or if the person should wait until they can decide to be baptized and speak for themselves.

Whatever the case within your family, Baptism is a sacrament that cleanses from guilt of original sin, initiates us into the covenant of God, admits the person into the greater Christian church, and makes us heir of the divine kingdom.

Baptism is not mandatory for a person to be admitted to heaven, BUT is a means of grace making the atonement of Christ available to us, and makes possible our reconciliation with God. Baptism is a covenant,

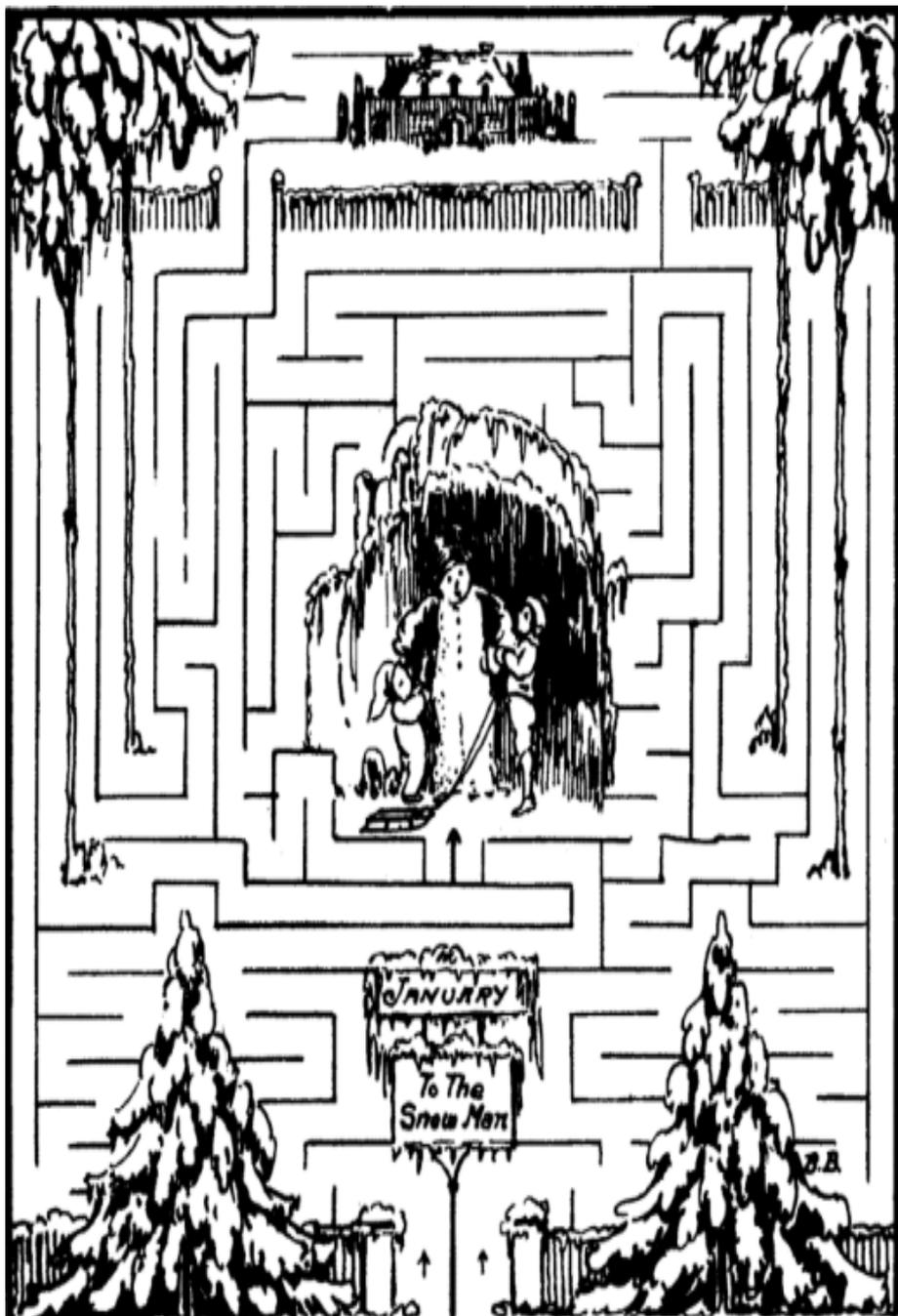
Matthew Chapter 3 is the first time baptism is mentioned in the Bible. Jesus commands His disciples to teach and baptize in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

In baptism, we (the church and person being baptized) enter into a covenant relationship with God and God enters into a covenant with His people.

On page 34 of our hymnal begins the Baptismal covenant. We renounce our sin as a whole church, accept the freedom and power to resist evil and injustice, and confess Jesus Christ is our Lord and savior.

The local church— on behalf of themselves and the church universal make a covenant to nurture those being baptized in the specific church by teaching, and by example. We make a covenant to model Christ's grace, declare our profession of faith, lead Christian lives, and to remain faithful members of the church.

In baptism, we join together as a local church with the church universal in rejecting sin and evil, reaffirming our faith and renewing the covenant of nurturing each other in our journey of faith.



Bring completed maze to Pastor for a special prize!

Announcements and Happenings

January 4 Ad Council 9 AM

January 4— De decorate the church. After church stay for fellowship and a light lunch after the decorations are down.

**January 25— annual soup cook off and game day,
Bring your soup
Bring your appetite
Bring those discerning taste buds
AND
Bring a game to share**

January 28- Food Pantry

UPCOMING SERMON TITLES

January 4 — Remember Your Baptism
January 11 — In the beginning was work
January 18 — Work can be beautiful
January 25 — We need rest!

CHURCH FINANCES

Please continue to support our church. You may continue to send your financial support to Mt. Pleasant UMC, c/o Jim Ros-enbury, 4099 CR 59, Butler, IN 46721