

January 2016

Edgerton United Methodist Church

# The Lighthouse

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## *The Master Artist* By Kathy Ledbetter

New beginnings. New week. New opportunities. What to do with it? Take it and run with it. Whatever happened last year, last month, last week is now behind us. We have God with us. He has sent a counselor to help us.

Our God has forgiven us our missteps and blessed our wise moves. He is the master of our days and nights. Our work weeks and our playtime.

We know who holds us and we are confident that He is able to do a good and better thing in us than yesterday.

### Thought For Today:

Restart. Hand God the brush and the colors. He has plans for our day that we have yet to imagine. It is a lie from the enemy that we can paint a more beautiful life portrait of ourselves than God can. Only God knows what we are going to encounter. He has a way for us to walk through without leaving open mouths and hurt on the faces

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As believers in Christ, we can change nothing that has already happened. We can't make the bad choices go away just like we cannot make the good choices better. We cannot withdraw words said in anger from the ears and heart of the target. We cannot redo an unkind action aimed to hurt. We cannot change that place we went that we should never have gone to. Forget it. Time to move to a new palette.



**OPEN HEARTS**

**OPEN DOORS**

**OPEN MINDS**

of those we pass. He has words for us to speak that will leave smiles and kind thoughts instead of frowns, anger and confusion aimed toward us. Be kind, considerate and open to those we come in contact with today.

Scripture For Today:

Isaiah 43:18-19

18 But forget all that-it is nothing compared to what I am going to do. 19 For I am about to do something new. See, I have already begun! Do you not see it? I will make a pathway through the wilderness. I will create rivers in the dry wasteland. (NLT)

Prayer For Today:

Hello Father! We pray for patience today. We pray that we listen more than we speak. That we smile more than we frown. That we love more than we hate. That we succeed and not fail. That we are the head and not the tail. You are the master portrait artist of our life. We pray we let go and hand You the brush and stand amazed at the transformation of our day, our week, our months and our years. Please forgive us of our sins. In Jesus' name. Amen.

I am married forty-eight years with two beautiful daughters and am MiMi to four awesome grandchildren. Jesus has walked me through the days of my life. Some of them were very difficult. I enjoy writing daily about Jesus.

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Thank you to everyone who contributed for the Adopt-A-Family project, whether it be financially, or in giving of your time to shop or wrap gifts. With your support and generosity, 6 families were helped this year. From these 6 families, there were a total of 11 children and 8 adults who received Christmas gifts. Such a great example of spreading God's love & witnessing to others. Whether they come to church or not, they at least have seen and experienced the love of Christ through your gift to them.

Wishing you all the Merriest of Christmases, and may the New Year bring many blessings to your families and to our church family!

Sincerely,

Ted & Janice Hill



## Children's Church Happenings!

Many of you probably wonder what takes place during children's church. As you know, Janice Hill teaches our lesson for the day upstairs, during the worship service. Because our age range is so great, we try to keep the lesson short and simple. Once she finishes the lesson, we go downstairs to our classroom, where Stephanie, Katie & Janice have crafts, games or activities planned out. Again, we try to keep the craft or activity simple enough for all age ranges and attention spans. Once their activity or game is completed, they have time to play. Through generosity of an individual in our congregation, we have a table that allows the kids to play pool, table tennis & table hockey. We occasionally have 'snowball' fights with Styrofoam snowballs, and sometimes we bring in ordinary cardboard boxes for the kids to build forts or castles or houses out of.

On December 20 we had our Children's Church Christmas party. Each child received a stocking and some gifts from the church, and we had snacks and enjoyed spending time together celebrating Jesus' birthday! Hope you all had a Merry Christmas, too!

## January Birthdays & Anniversaries

1/1 Marge Hinkle  
1/2 Jill Brenner  
1/8 Sandy Wood  
1/9 Adam Frager  
1/18 Morris Warner  
1/21 Janice Hill  
1/22 Emma Kinder  
1/23 Marcella Koerner  
1/24 Carolyn Martin  
1/25 Chuck Merriman  
1/27 Richard Fritch



**PRAYER REQUESTS**  
We are here to pray for you!



Marcella Koerner	Keegan Perez
Dock Pigmon II	Chuck Wilson
Shorty Fritch	Ray Babb
Chuck Bernath	Family & Friends of Alice Jean Goldsmith
Patti Coon	
Steve Hutchinson	
Louie Herman	

### Edgerton Liturgists

01/03– Denise Farnham  
01/10– Shawn Clifton  
01/17– Iva Peverly  
01/24– Dee Gilbert  
01/31– Karlyn McPike