



## NOTES FROM THE ROAD

I was trying to not fall down while digging ice off my car windows early on Sunday morning when I got the text that said, for safety's sake, we needed to cancel worship. I was relieved, but missed the breaking of the bread with you. Thank goodness Sunday comes around every week. And the ice is pretty on the tree branches where the sunlight makes it sparkle: Cape dressed in diamonds. We are richer than we know.

Part of our treasure is all the ways God is still speaking to us, among them when we take council together. The early church experienced that powerfully when it had to decide whether to fully accept all the Gentiles who were suddenly captivated by faith in Christ. It was (from our perspective) a dangerous moment. The church might have remained an obscure fringe group in Greco-Roman Judaism. On the other hand, keeping them out would have kept their identity very clear. (Paul's first-hand account of what happened is in Galatians 2:1-10, and an "official" version is recorded in Acts 15:1-21.) Clearly they argued, but listened to one another, and discerned what God was saying through the various voices raised. They heard God better together than apart. That's been true through all our 20 centuries, and is true today.

I'm heading home to Georgia this Friday for a week with Angela and the cats. We plan to construct and install a countertop, re-build the front porch steps, and ride the tandem a time or two. Bless him, David Dickey is preaching on February 18. Please bless him with your ears.

*What I'm listening to:* Gillian Welch's sharecropper's lament "Anabelle" ( <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mb7fm6YCAI4> ). There's something deeply faithful in its speaker's stoic agnosticism ... the Spirit speaks from some hard places sometimes.

—Doug



### More Than We Can Imagine Week of Compassion Offering February 18 & 25

The theologian Gustavo Gutierrez described poverty as "death-dealing". "It denies the basic human right to existence and the reign of life." Without the burdens of struggle, communities have more time for creativity, learning, and possibilities for life in greater fullness. God is at work doing so much more than we can imagine! And when we contribute to Week of Compassion, we are part of God's work in the world.

Through our sharing, we get a taste of the generosity of God, who does "*immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine.*"

*Please give generously*

### Fast Track: New Testament

The Disciples Fast Track New Testament class (Green Room) will discuss Paul's letter to the Hebrews on Sunday, February 18. This is an interesting letter and should make a great discussion. Please come.

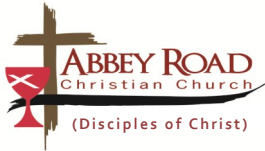
After Hebrews, we will be uncovering Revelation. This book is not for the faint of heart. Please check the newsletter next week for details.



Come celebrate winter birthdays (yours or someone else's!) at O'Charley's on **Wednesday, February 21, at 11:30am.** And remember: Wednesday is **FREE PIE** day at O'Charley's!



coming this spring!



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**Do you have someone to add to our prayer list? Please inform the church office or fill out a form found at the back of the sanctuary.**  
**Please note: Names will be removed from the prayer list after 3 months unless an update is made to the church office.**

## Worship Notes February 11 No service due to icy conditions

**February 18**  
**The Open Door**  
**Matthew 7:7-8 Revelation 3:8**  
**David Dickey**

### Serving on Sunday, February 18

At the Table: Karen Piker (c), Steve Piker (o)  
Distribution: Lavetta Bratton, Anne McDonough + ushers  
Communion Prep: Linda Hill  
Scripture Reader: Marge Janssen  
Greeters: David Dickey, Sue Kemp  
Ushers: Kilja Israel, Jamie Koehler  
Abbey Road Adventures: Peghly Bentlage  
Worship Capt.: Lavetta Bratton  
Soundboard: Breedon/Dean



- ◇ **Golden Boys** will meet at 8:00 on Tuesday at My Daddy's Cheesecake. Please join us for breakfast and conversation.
- ◇ *Our sympathy is extended to the family of Bonnie Hennessy, who passed away on February 10.*
- ◇ *Our sympathy is extended to Marge Janssen in the death of her brother-in-law, Don McLean, in California.*
- ◇ **Secret Place** devotional booklets for spring quarter are available in the narthex.

## CALENDAR

### Friday, February 16

10:00am ARCL: Genealogy



### Sunday, February 18

9:30am Worship  
9:30am Abbey Rd. Adventures for children, K-6<sup>th</sup> grade  
10:30am Fellowship  
10:45am Sunday School

### Tuesday, February 20

8:00am Golden Boys at My Daddy's Cheesecake

### Wednesday, February 21

9:30am Bible Study  
11:30am Winter Birthdays lunch at O'Charley's  
6:00pm New Life Singers practice  
6:45pm Chancel Choir practice

### Thursday, February 22

8:00am Women's Breakfast Group at Cracker Barrel

