



NOTES FROM THE ROAD

[Ah, classic content for a minister's column: the announcement of a series. Now may the Grower of the Garden make compost of it, and raise up a harvest of the bread of life. Blame any tares on me.]

As our United Church of Christ friends like to say, "God is still speaking!" I'll explore that exclamation in my preaching during this season of Epiphany. I welcome your reflections, perplexities, inklings and insights as we seek to listen together!

January 14: "God Still Speaks Through Prophets"

January 21: "God Still Speaks Through Creation"

January 28: "God Still Speaks Through Scriptures, Stories, and Songs"

February 4: "God Still Speaks Through Stillness"

February 11: "God Still Speaks Through Jesus"

I have four more ideas about how God is still speaking than I have Sundays in Epiphany, so I plan to share them in these notes in the newsletter. May God give us good ears!

What I'm listening to: while I was driving across the Bootheel in the December dark one night, not seeing but sensing all those acres of deep, rich soil spread around me, my alt-folk stream served up Mavis Staples' "Sow Good Seeds" (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1zJOr61nbyQ>). I think I'll be listening to this one all year long....

—Doug

Happy New Year wishes.

The Board of Elders, with the Intentional Interim Pastoral Search Committee, met Thursday, January 4th, with Doug. Our time was given in reflection of where we've come from, and where we might yet go as a Church. As is often the case, I left our meeting with more wonderings than I came with. This New Year beckons us to question and evaluate, to dream and test new possibilities; to be a people curious about the deeper waters into which we might wade.

Wondering - how well do we listen - really listen - to each other, and sometimes ourselves, without the distractions and the defenses and the biases . . . simply . . . listen . . . to one another? Wondering - how well do we 'do' the good work of making a difference for good in Cape Girardeau, as His Church?

Wondering - how well are we known, and for what we are known?

And, finally, wondering for what do we wish to be known?

Doug's time with us is time for reflecting, listening, and testing of the waters.

Thanks Doug.

Yours,
David

From the
Board Chair

On Sunday, January 14, the Green Room class will continue the study of the Fast Track: New Testament material.



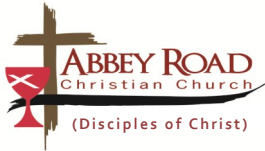
Please read the letter of Paul to the people of Corinth: Corinthians 1-15.

The Middle Room will continue "A Perfect Mess".



Many thanks to everyone who helped put up and/or take down all of the decorations for the Christmas season! Thanks to your willingness to help out, the church looked beautiful!

~ Carolyn Taylor



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2018 Officers, Board of Elders

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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 January 7

Attendance: 58

1st time guests: 3 Regular friends: 10

Offering: \$3,854

January 14

God Still Speaks Through Prophets
Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Serving on Sunday, January 14

At the Table: Jim Main (c), Martin Needels (o)
Distribution: Anne McDonough, Darla Snider + ushers
Communion Prep: Linda Hill
Scripture Reader: Margaret Needels
Greeters: Felicia Fox, Kilja Israel
Ushers: Dick & Linda Hill
Abbey Road Adventures: Steven Piker
Worship Capt.: Dick Hill
Soundboard: Breedon/Dean



◇ **Golden Boys** will meet at 8:00 on Tuesday at My Daddy's Cheesecake. Please join us for breakfast and conversation.

◇ *Sign Up to Serve in February!!*

◇ Minutes of the January 4 Board of Elders meeting are available in the narthex.

CALENDAR

Thursday, January 11

8:00am Women's Breakfast Group at My Daddy's Cheesecake

Sunday, January 14

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

Tuesday, January 16

8:00am Golden Boys at My Daddy's Café & Bakery

Wednesday, January 17

9:30am Bible Study
6:00pm New Life Singers practice

**START SAVING YOUR STUFF
FOR THE GARAGE SALE!**



The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet ... you shall heed such a prophet.

Deuteronomy 18:15. IIRSV