

North West District DECEMBER 2017 News

DS's DECEMBER SCHEDULE

- 4- Cabinet
- 7 Meeting
- 12 SPRC
Training
Lake City

DECEMBER DATES TO REMEMBER

- 10 Missional
Vital Signs
Due
- 12 SPRC
Training
Lake City



DURWOOD'S NOTE

December 2017

The new Christian year begins as we look forward to the celebration of the birth of the Christ Child. I am overwhelmed by the prayer, faithfulness, love, care, and generosity that are abundant in the lives of our 90 faith communities here in the North Best District. As I made my way around Charge Conferences I heard your God Sightings over the past year! The light of Christ surely shines through us --- and we haven't even celebrated Christmas yet! But, perhaps this is really what Christmas is all about! Maybe Christmas is about living a life that witnesses every day to the fact that Christ is indeed walking among us and with us. Maybe it's about reaching out to the community and the world through prayer and service? Maybe it's about sharing our time with each other? Maybe it's all about living our lives as acts of worship?



As we make our way through Advent and prepare to celebrate the birth of Christ I invite you to:

1. Make your life an act of worship by making an intentional effort to laugh, sing, pray, read, listen, worship, and share.
2. Fight the urge to join the Empire of "More," to do less shopping and to give more of ourselves --- more of our time, attention, and love.
3. Give extravagantly --- to give each gift in the same spirit of love that God gifted us with the

From your
friends
in the
North
"Best"
District
Office,
May you
have a
Spirit filled
Christmas
and a
Blessed
New Year.

*Durwood,
Peggy &
Vicki*

extravagant gift of his Son!

For me, these challenges help me to hear and understand the traditional Christmas story with a more open heart and keener ears. I know I'm not going to miss Christmas this year!

So, spread the word --- "go tell it on the mountain..." --- that Jesus is coming ... that Christ is among us! Make sure you don't miss Christmas!

May Hope, Peace, Joy and Love fill all your days!

I love serving as your superintendent,

Durwood

SPRC TRAINING

The District Superintendent will lead an SPRC Training on **December 12 at Wesley Memorial in Lake City.**



All churches are asked to have the SPRC Committees, or at least the Chair of your Committee, in attendance. Very important information will be shared.

SAVE THE DATE

There will be a District-wide event on Saturday,

Feb. 10 .

Plan to join us at this District Congregational Vitality Event, Taking the Church from the Steeple to the Streets.

**The
Big!
Event!**

More information will be forthcoming but for now, please save the date.

PLAN NOW!
EASTER PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY WITH
BISHOP CARTER SLATED FOR APRIL
2018

Led by Bishop Carter, travelers will visit Venice, Assisi, Siena, Florence and Rome while studying the Gospel of Mark and the legacy of Peter during April 3-12, 2018.



From Bishop Carter: *"We will learn more about the gospel of Mark in Venice and the legacy of Peter; we will read the dialogues of Catherine of Siena and the meditations of Dante; and we will reflect on the renewing vision given to Francis of Assisi," and more.*

For more information, a brochure with a detailed itinerary and online registration, [click here](#).