

Dear Lillian UMC family,

Last month, we recalled how God's "peace on earth" was His gracious overture to mankind, to grant peace and reconciliation, not between man and men, but God and man.

Jesus was sent from heaven as the substitutionary sacrifice for all men. But only those who unconditionally surrender their will, turn from sin (repent) and trust wholly in Christ, will receive benefit of that sacrifice. No amount of good works or religious activity will ever be accepted in the eyes of a Holy God.

God the Father accepted the sacrifice of the Son as satisfactory payment for sin and now with reconciliation comes the believers' adoption as children of God. Only now can we truly call God, "Our Father."

Now we can have the relationship that we were meant to have from the very beginning. Now we can "seek His face," having fellowship and true communion with our Creator.

As we spend these thirty days seeking God, develop the good routines that turn into good habits, that will be with us the rest of our lives. Spend time with God every day, developing a relationship that will carry us through this life, and into eternity.

Happy New Year,  
Perry Cunningham  
Lay Leader