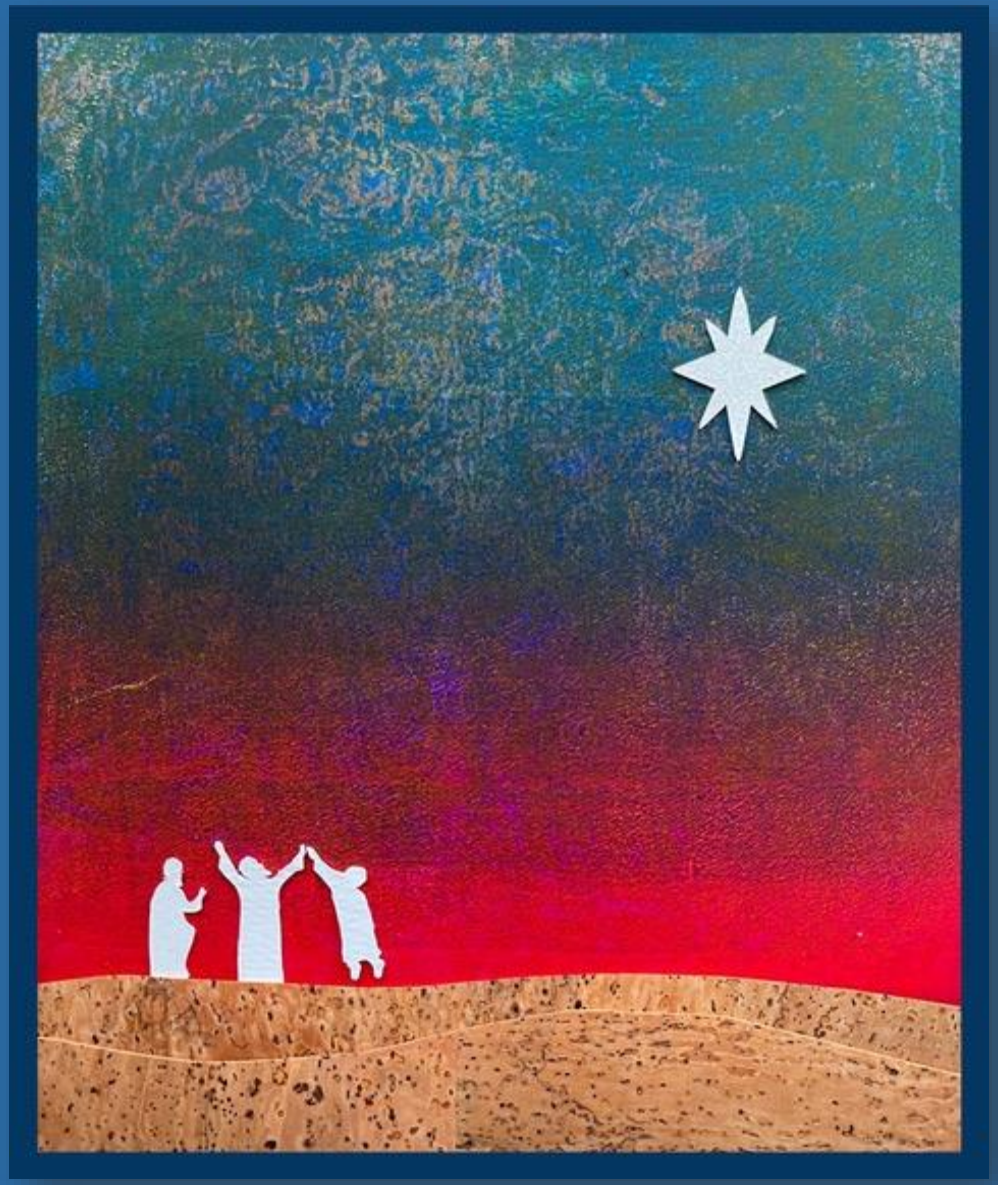


Artwork by Sue Carroll

Sunday, December 29, 2025

Culmore United Methodist Church

Welcome and Good Morning!

Welcome and Announcements

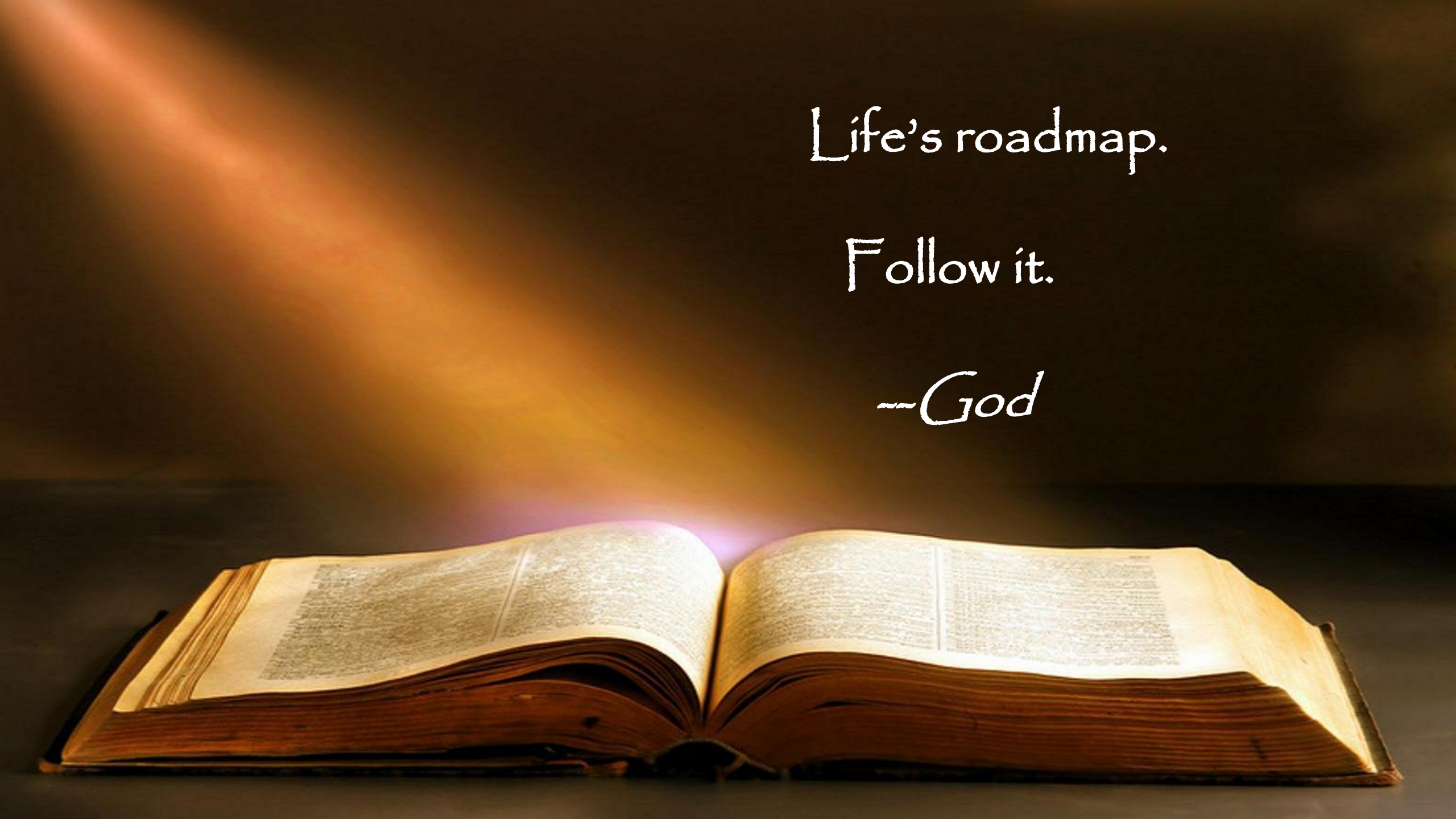
Art by Sue Carroll

Communion:
Next Sunday,
January 4th
Art by Sue Carroll

Happy Birthday!

Once again it's your birthday. Once again the time is here.
What a loving gift from Jesus, He has given you one more year.
Happy time is your birthday, happy time this year.
What a loving gift from Jesus, He has given you one more year.
Oh happy birthday to you, oh happy birthday to you.
For you have Jesus Christ everyday of your life.
Oh happy birthday to you, oh happy birthday to you.
The Lord bless and keep you.
Happy birthday to you. And to Jesus with you.
God bless you and keep you. Happy birthday to you.

RESTART
With God


Life's roadmap.
Follow it.
--God

RESTART

A FRESH START IS POSSIBLE
DO
OVER

New Year's Resolutions - 2025

1. Walk a mile every day.
2. Get the sermon finished before Saturday night.
3. Quit going to Dairy Queen for ice cream.

2025 SCORECARD:

1. Walk a mile every day.
   - did better than 2024

2. Get the sermon finished before Saturday night.
   - hmm…made a little progress

3. Stop going to Dairy Queen for ice cream.

EPIC FAILURE!

PEAR

Behold!

I am making all things new.

This Is a Day of New Beginnings

This is a day of new beginnings,
time to remember and move on,
time to believe what love is bringing,
laying to rest the pain that's gone.

For by the life and death of Jesus,
God's mighty Spirit, now as then,
can make for us a world of difference,
as faith and hope are born again.

Then let us, with the Spirit's daring,
step from the past and leave behind
our disappointment, guilt, and grieving,
seeking new paths, and sure to find.

Christ is alive, and goes before us
to show and share what love can do.
This is a day of new beginnings;
our God is making all things new.

Opening Prayer

Dear Lord,

Today is a new day, in a new year, a chance at a fresh start. Let me embrace today's possibilities and let go of yesterday. I won't be perfect; I'll make mistakes, but don't let my stumbles defeat my spirit, for each day is a new beginning. May I walk them all with You.

You are making all things new, and that includes me. Help me lean into this promise and renew a right spirit within me.

Amen

Romans 7: 15-19

I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do… I do not do,

but what I hate, I do.

And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good.

As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me.

For I know that good itself does not dwell in me, that is,

in my sinful nature. **For I have the desire to do what is good,**

but I cannot carry it out. For I do not do the good I want to do,

but the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing.

I have the desire to do what is good,

but I cannot carry it out...

St Augustine
Bishop of Hippo
354 -430AD

Believed by many to be one of the most significant thinkers in the history of the Christian Church.

"I'm of two minds about that."

"A House Divided."

"an angel whispering in one ear, and
a demon whispering into the other."

(Which one will Homer listen to?)

"Take it and read,
take it and read!"

God's grace can bridge
a divided mind.

Create in Me a Clean Heart

Create in me a clean heart, O God

and renew a right spirit within me.

Create in me a clean heart, O God

and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from Thy presence, O Lord

and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.

Restore unto me, the joy of Thy salvation

and renew a right spirit within me.

Community Prayer

LORD,

You have called us to love You with all our hearts, souls, and minds, and to love each other as You love us. What could be more straightforward and clear? Yet we struggle to do this. Just like St. Paul and St. Augustine, we face competing priorities in our lives. We want to do the good, but feel pulled toward the wrong instead.

As we come into the New Year, we seek to renew and deepen our relationship with You, and this requires change on our part.

Father, help us to choose the good path, the one to You.

AMEN

Offering and Doxology
UM Hymnal 95

We give thanks for this wonderful,
generous community of faith.

Doxology - UM Hymnal 94

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Art by Sue Carroll

Benediction