



### ***Pastor Sue's January Message***

So what is next? That is one of the questions many of us have in January. You may still have a Christmas tree in your living room, and somehow you have a hard time taking it down. Having a hard time taking down the Christmas tree is one thing and dwelling in the past while forgoing the present and the future is another.

A man once said to the wise man, "If you give me \$100, I will teach you how to remember things." The wise man responded, "I will give you \$10,000 if you teach me how to forget things." Do you agree with the wise man? I do. When the wise man said "to forget things," I don't think he meant amnesia, but purposely letting go. In fact, that was exactly what the Apostle Paul meant when he said, "Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it; but one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:13-14).

Paul had a dogged determination not to let past scars and bitterness control him or have power over him or manipulate him, but instead, he fixed his eyes on Jesus, pressing on toward the goals God wanted him to achieve to become the person God intended him to be. And *that* is what you and I have been called to do as followers of Jesus Christ. So let's continue to press on together to grow Christ-like Christians as God intends us to be in 2019! Happy New Year everyone!

*Pastor Sue Lee*