THE UNITED MESSENGER FIFTEENTH STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH DONATION UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
MONDAY - THURSDAY, 9:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M.

WEBSITE: http://www.15thstreetunitedmethodistchurch.com/

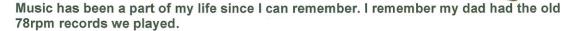
E-MAIL: meth15st@verizon.net (Pastor Barbara Servello)

December, 2023

LINK TO FACEBOOK: http://www.facebook.com/ E-MAIL: <u>secretary15@verizon.net</u> (Miriam Fetzer) (814) 643-3690

FROM THE PASTOR....

DECEMBER DEVOTIONAL



I grew up in the 60's and 70's listening with my brothers to the Beatles and oldies of my dad's and then disco.

But my favorite music was always the songs we sung at Christmas. We would start playing our Christmas records on Thanksgiving through to Christmas. At church, though, we still could not sing the Christmas carols that we loved because we had to go through Advent.



Advent is the four weeks (Sundays) before Christmas. Advent is a time of waiting, anticipating, reflecting, and preparing for the birth of Christ. What we prepare is our home, a lot of food, giving of gifts, attending parties and celebrations, not that these things are bad, but when do we prepare our hearts? When do we find time to reflect on Christ?

Advent is not just preparing for Christmas but also to prepare for the second coming of Christ. Let us this Advent not just prepare our homes and food but our hearts.

Let us remember to keep Christ in Christmas. I pray that you have a very blessed Christ filled holiday this Christmas.

Pastor Barb Servello 814-312-0913



ADOPT A FAMILY

As in the last few years, we, again, are going to adopt a family for the Christmas season through the Salvation Army. The family has not yet been chosen.

If you are interested in contributing, just mark your check or envelope accordingly.



Food Bank Item For December Chicken Noodle

FIFTEENTH STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH **WORSHIP SCHEDULE DECEMBER 2023**

December 3, 2023

First Sunday Of Advent

Scripture Lessons - Isaiah 64:1-9 NRSV: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19 NRSV:

I Corinthians 1:3-9 NRSV; Mark 13:24-37 NRSV

Sermon - "Hope"

December 10, 2023

Second Sunday Of Advent

Scripture Lessons - Isaiah 40:1-11 NRSV; Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13 NRSV;

II Peter 3:8-15a NRSV: Mark 1:1-8 NRSV

Sermon – "Peace"

December 17, 2023

Third Sunday Of Advent

Scripture Lessons - Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 NRSV; Psalm 126 or Luke 1:47-55 NRSV; I Thessalonians 5:16-24 NRSV; John 1:6-8, 19-28 NRSV

Sermon - "Joy"

December 24, 2023

Fourth Sunday Of Advent

Scripture Lessons - II Samuel 7:1-11, 16 NRSV; Luke 1:47-55 NRSV or

Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26 NRSV:

Romans 16:25-27 NRSV; Luke 1:26-38 NRSV

Sermon - "Love"

December 24, 2023

Christmas Eve Service

Holy Communion

Scripture Lessons - Isaiah 9:2-7 NRSV; Psalm 96 NRSV;

Titus 2:11-14 NRSV; Luke 2:1-14 (15-20) NRSV

Sermon - "Light"

December 31, 2023

First Sunday After Christmas Day

Scripture Lessons - Isaiah 61:10 - 62:3 NRSV; Psalm 148 NRSV;

Galatians 4:4-7 NRSV; Luke 2:22-40 NRSV

Sermon In Song Selections

15th Street United Methodist Church BIRTHDAYS

December 1 Anna Mary Kenyon December 10 Cindy Knott December 8 Alexis Streightiff

December 28 Paula Mohler

December 22 Virginia Cramer

ANNIVERSARIES

December 22 Howard and Beverly Reitenbaugh December 22 Bill and Peggy Hoffman

Donation United Methodist Church BIRTHDAYS

December 16 Erin McCool

December 16 Susan McCool

December 31 Emily Bickle

ANNIVERSARY December 24 Rick and Amy Johns

happy anniversary

OCTOBER, 2023 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

					INCOME VS EXPENSE	
	ACTUAL INCOME		ACTUAL EXPENSES		YEAR TO DATE	
		YEAR		YEAR		
	OCTOBER	TO DATE	OCTOBER	TO DATE	PLUS	MINUS
CURRENT INCOME	\$23,188.40	\$179,688.64				
CURRENT EXPENSES			\$18,170.29	\$173,222.07		
					\$6,466.57	
BENEVOLENCE INCOME	\$890.48	\$6,093.24				
BENEVOLENCE EXPENSES			\$535.48	\$5,309.24		
					\$784.00	
TRUSTEE INCOME	\$1,628.00	\$8,571.00				
TRUSTEE EXPENSES			\$1,628.00	\$8,571.00		
					\$0.00	\$0.00
COMBINED INCOME	\$25,706.88	\$194,352.88				
COMBINED EXPENSES			\$20,333.77	\$187,102.31		

The actual CURRENT Income Figure of \$23,188.40 for October, 2023, reflects a withdrawal amount of \$10,000.00 from the BERNICE CREMER ENDOWMENT to compensate for the declining income to assist with everyday operating expenses for the church.

SPECIAL OFFERINGS FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER

December 3, 2023	Advent Offering – (An offering received to assist with current expenses.)		
December 10, 2023	Christmas Offering – Benevolent Homes of the UMC		

(This is a collection received to help provide loving care to children and senior citizens who otherwise may be alone and without proper care or shelter.)

December 17, 2023 Forum Fuel Assistance – (Assisting aid to those in our community that are in need.)

December 24, 2023 Christmas Eve Offering (Celebrating the birth of Jesus into the world.)

Special Offerings for October

Annie Maize \$ 5.48
Food Pantry \$ 100.00
UM Student Day \$ 25.00
World Communion \$ 85.00

REPORT FROM THE HOLIDAY SHOPPING SPREE / USED BOOK SALE EVENT

Kitchen Sales – Income was \$2,395.80 Profit was \$2,000.00 for Rise Against Hunger. Used Book Sale – Income was \$986.00.

Music Ministry: \$300.00; Summer Lunch Bunch: \$686.00

CHRISTMAS KETTLE SEASON – 15TH STREET UM CHURCH

SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGING AT ACE HARDWARE - FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1ST - 10:00 A.M.-6:00 P.M.

Cancer Care Ministry

You don't have to feel alone. Come and find support with those who are experiencing what you are going through.

McConnellstown First Church Of The Nazarene – 5851 Newtown Avenue – Huntingdon, PA;

3rd Sunday Of Each Month – 4:30 p.m. – Church Fellowship Hall

For More Information – call (814) 643-7171 or (814) 386-7573.

Events To Remember

BELL RINGING AT ACE HARDWARE (15TH STREET UMC) Friday, December 1st – 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

DECORATE THE CHURCH – 15TH STREET UM CHURCH Saturday, December 2nd – 9:00 a.m.

HOLY COMMUNION - DONATION / 15TH STREET UM CHURCHES Sunday, December 3rd - 9:15 a.m., 10:45 a.m.

DEADLINE FOR BRINGING IN CHRISTMAS CARDS
15TH STREET UM CHURCH
Sunday, December 3rd

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CAROLING Sunday, December 3rd – 3:00 p.m. – Bryan Park

TRUSTEE MEETING - 15TH STREET UM CHURCH Monday, December 4th - 6:00 p.m.

CHURCH CHRISTMAS DINNER
15TH STREET UM CHURCH SOCIAL HALL
Tuesday, December 5th – 5:00 p.m.

COOKIE DROP-OFF / SET-UP – 15TH STREET UM CHURCH Friday, December 8th – 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Saturday, December 9th – 7:00 a.m.-8:00 a.m.

COOKIE WALK / SOUP SALE / USED BOOK SALE 15TH STREET UM CHURCH Saturday, December 9th – 9:00 a.m.-???

WRAPPING GIFTS FOR NURSING HOMES – DONATION UM CHURCH Sunday, December 10th – Following Morning Worship

BIBLE STUDY – 15TH STREET UM CHURCH Tuesday, December 12th – 6:00 p.m.

ASSEMBLING FRUIT BASKETS - DONATION UM CHURCH Thursday, December 14th - 4:00 p.m. - Social Room

COME TO THE STABLE: A CELEBRATION OF CHRISTMAS MUSIC Friday, December 15th – 15th Street UM Church Living Nativity / Christmas Concert – 6:30 p.m.

DONATION UM CHURCH – ADVENT DINNER/CHRISTMAS PROGRAM Sunday, December 17th 5:00 p.m.–Meal; 6:30 p.m. – Christmas Program

CHRISTMAS CAROLING – 15TH STREET UM CHURCH Tuesday, December 19th – 5:30 p.m. (meet at the church)

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE – 15TH STREET UM CHURCH HOLY COMMUNION Sunday, December 24th – 7:00 p.m.

SUMMER LUNCH BUNCH CHRISTMAS PARTY
15TH STREET UM CHURCH
Wednesday, December 27th - 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

PORK 'N SAUERKRAUT DINNER – 15TH STREET UM CHURCH Sunday, December 31st – 12:00 noon – SOCIAL HALL

ROOM AT THE INN: HOUSES OF WORSHIP OPEN HOUSE Sunday, December 31st Details have not yet been finalized. Watch for more information in your weekly bulletins.

> Chancel Choir Wednesday - 6th, 13th, 20th - 6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Bell Choir Wednesday - 6th, 13th, 20th - 8:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

Come to the Stable – Friday, December 15th – 15th Street UM Church – 6:30 p.m.

Heifer International is a global nonprofit work to eradicate poverty and hunger through sustainable, values-based holistic community development. Heifer International distributes animals, along with agricultural and values-based training, to families in need around the world as a means of providing self-sufficiency. Recipients must agree to "pass on the gift" by donating animal offspring, as well as, sharing the skills and knowledge of animal husbandry and agricultural training with other impoverished families in the community.

For the evening of Come to the Stable, there will be a living nativity portrayed, as well as, congregational singing. There will, also, be special performances by local musicians. Please watch your bulletins for an upcoming listing.

The offering received will be given to the Heifer Project. At the front of the sanctuary, there will be a manger in place for your monetary gifts. Checks should be made payable to the 15th Street UM Church. The opportunity for you to give to this project will be open the entire month of December. Just be sure to mark "Heifer Project" in your check memo or envelope so proper credit is given.

As in previous years, luminaires will be placed on the curbing surrounding the church. If interested in purchasing a luminary to honor someone or in memory of a loved one, the cost is \$5.00 each. The name of each individual will be printed on the front of a luminary bag. Please provide the name to Trudy McElwain, as well as, payment by Monday, December 11th.







Just as a reminder..., Christmas is Coming, real soon...

We are only a few weeks away from the Christmas Season being in full swing. As in previous years, for those of you who want to get a little head start on your Christmas cards, we are going to help you out. As a way to brighten the holidays of some of our church members and friends who have not been able to attend church services as often as they would like, we are asking that you send them a Christmas card and let them know that you are thinking about them. A box is placed at the back of the sanctuary on the radiator and will be there until Sunday, December 3rd at which time they will be sorted and either hand delivered or mailed in time for Christmas. (please, do not place a stamp on the envelope).

Mrs. Virginia Cramer 11702 Standing Stone Road Huntingdon, PA 16652

Mrs. Mary Gladfelter 1426 Mifflin Street Huntingdon, PA 16652

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Isenberg 1310 Oneida Street Huntingdon, PA 16652

Ms. Beverly Lightner A209 Valley View Terrace Belleville, PA 17004



Mrs. Cleo Mann 2738 Warm Springs Avenue Huntingdon, PA 16652

Mrs. Louise Mateer Preserve at Cedarwood 925 S. Lincoln Avenue Room 107 Tyrone, PA 16686

Mrs. Betty Norris 10404 Petersburg, Pike Huntingdon, PA 16652

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Reitenbaugh 8373 Stone Creek Ridge Road Huntingdon, PA 16652

Mrs. Beatrice Ross 1817 Penn Street Huntingdon, PA 16652 Mrs. Nancy Salter 400 9th Street – Apartment 808 Huntingdon, PA 16652

Mrs. Colleen Trimer Colonial Courtyard at Tyrone 5546 E. Pleasant Valley Boulevard Room 214B Tyrone, PA 16686

Mrs. Lena Whitesel 6599 Towne Center Boulevard Apartment 323 Huntingdon, PA 16652



just a reminder..., for those of you who have signed up –
15th Street Church Christmas Party – Church Social Room
Tuesday – December 5th – 5:00 p.m.
musical selections: Jack and Barb Servello
please bring a \$10.00 wrapped gift for the evening to be exchanged.

Cookie Walk / Soup Sale / Used Book Sale 15th Street UM Church Saturday, December 9th - 9:00 a.m.-??? Soup will be available in carry out containers: \$8.00 a quart; \$4.00 a pint; cookies \$10.00 a box.

Donation UM Church will be wrapping Christmas gifts to give to residents at several of our local nursing homes on Sunday, December 10th, following the morning worship service. If you are available, please stay and participate in this outreach ministry.

They will be delivered at a later date to the homes.

Assembling Fruit Baskets – Donation UMC Thursday, December 14th – 4:00 p.m. Church Social Room

ADVENT DINNER – DONATION UM CHURCH – SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17TH 5:00 p.m.-MEAL; 6:30 p.m.-CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Meat, rolls, butter and beverage will be provided. Everyone is to bring a covered dish or dessert to share. Following the meal, there will be a Christmas program of carols, special music, readings, and candle lighting.

The "Mitten Tree" is up and in place at the 15th Street UM Church/Educational Unit entrance.

So, when you are out doing your holiday shopping, be sure to pick up a hat, scarf, pair of gloves, or even socks to help decorate the tree. It will be up until Sunday,

December 10th, at which time all "decorations" will be removed and given to a local charity for distribution to those in need.



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE – SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24TH – 7:00 P.M. – 15TH STREET UM CHURCH

Service of Scripture, Carols, Holy Communion, Candle Lighting All are invited to celebrate Christmas Eve as we worship the Christ whose birthday we commemorate.



COMMUNITY EVENTS

Holiday Shoppe - Huntingdon County Arts Center - 313 12th Street

Monday - Saturday, 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.; Sunday - 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. (continues every week through Christmas)

Large Collection of Local Art & Hand-Crafted Items

Stone Church of the Brethren
Alternative Christmas Gift Bazaar
Saturday – December 2nd – 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. – Ellis Ballroom-Juniata College
Support Mission-Driven Organizations That Serve
Local, Regional and Global Communities.

The Huntingdon County Historical Society & Standing Stone Garden Club Invite You To A Victorian Christmas! (at the Huntingdon County Library and the Historical Society & Gallery, 4th and Penn Streets.)

Friday – December 1st – Historical Society – 10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.

Library - 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Saturday - December 2nd - Historical Society - 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Library - 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Enjoy the decorations and music! Shop for arrangements, greens, baked goods, wreaths, crafts, and more at the gallery.

Alternative Santa Visit At McConnellstown UM Church two opportunities, both on Sundays..., December 3rd and December 10th – 2:00 p.m.-5:10 p.m.

If you have a family member (child or adult) for whom the traditional visit to Santa has not been possible due to physical limitations, sensory issues or disabilities we (the churches of McConnellstown UMC, Mill Creek UMC and Twelfth Street UMC) have come together to create a Santa event just for you. Your family member can meet Santa without a wait in line, without other distractions in a room set up for private visits. Each time slot is 15 minutes to give time for the child to become comfortable, (in other words no rush with a long line of people watching). Each child will receive a gift. You can complete your visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus with a cookie and punch. For additional information as to how to sign up, please reach out to Abbie Kane (814) 599-6272 or Pastor Pat Shope (814) 599-1464.

Community Cookie Walk
Westminster Woods – Monday – December 11th – 8:00 a.m.-???



LET'S START NEW YEAR'S EVE OFF RIGHT ...,

Come to Church, Sunday, December 31, 2023 and then stay for a Pork 'n Sauerkraut Dinner in the Social Hall, following the morning worship service at 12:00 p.m. As tradition..., pork 'n sauerkraut, mashed potatoes, dumplings, hot dogs, macaroni & cheese, green bean casserole, rolls, and beverages will be served. The 20th Century Men's Sunday School Class is sponsoring the meal. There will be a sheet on the radiator at the back of the sanctuary for you to sign up, if planning on attending, as well as how many. The men must have a count by Tuesday, December 26th. Everyone Is Welcome!



December 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
15th Street UN 9:30 a.mSu 10:45 a.mW Donation UM 9:15 a.mW 10:45 a.mSu	inday School orship I Church orship	Food Bank Item Chicken Noodle Soup	*		1 10:00 a.m6:00 p.m. Bell Ringing At Ace Hardware (15th UM Church)	9:00 a.m. Decorate The Church For Christmas
3 Holy Communion 9:15 a.m. Donation UMC 10:45 a.m. 15th Street UMC Deadline For Bringing In Christmas Cards 3:00 p.m. Community Christmas Caroling At Bryan Park	6:00 p.m. Trustee Meeting	5 5:00 p.m. 15th Street UMC Christmas Dinner At 15th Street UMC Social Room	6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir 8:00 p.m. Bell Choir	7	5:00 p.m7:00 p.m. Cookie Drop-Off / Set-up	9 5:00 p.m7:00 p.m. Cookie Drop-Off / Set-up 9:00 a.m. 15th Street UMC Cookie Walk / Soup Sale
Donation UMC Wrapping Gifts For Nursing Home Residents Following Morning Worship	11	6:00 p.m. "The Chosen" Bible Study 15th Street UMC	6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir 8:00 p.m. Bell Choir	14 4:00 p.m. Donation UMC Assembling Fruit Baskets	6:30 p.m. Come To The Stable – A Celebration Of Christmas Music	16
Donation UMC Advent Dinner/ Christmas Program 5:00 p.mDinner 6:30 p.mProgram	18	5:30 p.m. Christmas Caroling In The Neighborhood (meet at 15th Street UMC)	6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir 8:00 p.m. Bell Choir	21	22	23
7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service 15th Street UMC	25	26	11:00 a.m2:00 p.m. Summer Lunch Bunch Christmas Party 15th Street UMC Social Room	28	29	30
31 12:00 p.m. Pork 'n Sauerkraut Dinner At 15th Street UMC						

The United Messenger
FIFTEENTH STREET
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1500 Moore Street
Huntingdon, PA 16652

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

This newsletter is sent FREE to you each month. If you no longer wish to receive it, please mark an (x) in the circle at the left, tear off this portion with your address and mail it to us. We will then remove your name from our monthly mailing list. Thank you.



